THE NEW
# INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • JANUARY 08, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/thenewindianxpress twitter.com/newindianxpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress

## ROHIT, KOHLI RETURN TO SQUAD FOR AFGHANISTAN T20Is

**More than a year after playing their last T20I game, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli are back in squad for Afghanistan series...**

**NO HARDIK YET, SAMSON MAKES THE CUT**

As the BCCI named the 16-member squad for the three T20Is that begin on January 11, Hardik Pandya, Suryakumar Yadav and Ruturaj Gaikwad who are still recovering from injuries are not included. Sanju Samson, who was not a part of the South Africa T20Is, has made the cut. Among the pacers who played Tests in SA, only Mukesh Kumar has been included in the squad | P13

**ROHIT RESUMES CAPTAINCY IN SHORTEST FORMAT**

- Rohit will resume captaincy in the format for the first time since the 2022 T20 World Cup semifinal. That he and Kohli are back indicates that they may be in the scheme of things for the 2024 T20 WC
- KL Rahul, who also hasn't played T20Is since the last WC, is not included despite expressing his interest to bat in the middle-order

**14**

**AFTER 14 MONTHS, ROHIT AND KOHLI WILL PLAY A T20I FOR INDIA**

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

# MALDIVES SUSPENDS THREE MINISTERS FOR MODI JIBE

Indian mission takes up issue with Maldives; celebs call for boycotting the island

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

(Left to right): Mariyam Shiuna, Malsha Shareef, and Abdulla Mahzoom Majid | X

THE Maldivian government on Sunday swung into damage control mode as it suspended three of its ministers — Mariyam Shiuna, Malsha Shareef, and Abdulla Mahzoom Majid — for making derogatory remarks on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"All government officials responsible for the comments have been suspended from their posts with immediate effect," read a statement released by Maldives government spokesperson Ibrahim Khaleel. The action came after the Indian High Commission in Male raised the issue with the Maldives foreign ministry.

The ministers had used disparaging remarks against Prime Minister Modi on social media after he posted a video of him on a pristine beach in Lakshadweep. Through their repulsive posts, the ministers inferred that the Indian PM was trying to project the Union Territory as an alternative tourist destination to the Maldives.

The insulting comments created widespread outrage, with many celebrities urging people to explore other tourist destinations instead of Maldives. There were also reports of mass cancellation of Maldives bookings for the upcoming holiday season.

Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar said: "Came across comments from prominent public figures from Maldives. Surprised that they are doing this to a country that sends them maximum tourists. Why should we tolerate unprovoked hate? Let us support our own tourism."

Many Maldivian leaders, including former Maldivian president Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, also strongly condemned the derogatory remarks. "India has always been a good friend of Maldives," he said.

Former foreign minister Abdulla Shahid termed the comments "reprehensible and odious", noting that India is a time-tested friend who is always the first to respond in times of need.

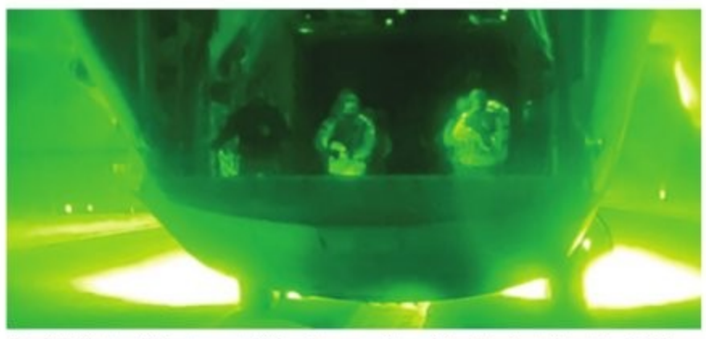
By suspending the ministers, Maldives may have averted a major diplomatic row. The country is heavily depended on tourism and India contributes the most to its economy. Last year, over two lakh Indian tourists visited Maldives.

**No hatred, negativity**

The Maldivian foreign ministry said it believes freedom of expression should be expressed in ways that do not spread hatred, negativity

**We must not allow such callous remarks to negatively impact the age-old friendship between our two countries**

Former Maldivian president Ibrahim Mohamed Solih



The C-130J aircraft during a night-landing operation at the Kargil airstrip in Ladakh | PTI

## Air Force makes first night-landing in Kargil

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

IN a demonstration of its expanding operational capabilities, the Indian Air Force (IAF) said it has successfully conducted a night-landing of C-130J Super Hercules transport aircraft at the high-altitude Kargil airstrip.

"In a first, an IAF C-130 J aircraft recently carried out a night landing at the Kargil airstrip," the IAF wrote on X.

It is a significant achievement given that Kargil airstrip is situated at an altitude of 2,927 metres above sea level and is surrounded by hills and has a unidirectional approach.

To land the aircraft on the dark airstrip, the crew used night vision goggles. They also employed terrain masking en route, a technique used to avoid detection by enemy radars.

**GARUD COMMANDOS ON BOARD**

The transport aircraft carried elite Garud commandos on board who were on a training mission. "The exercise also dovetailed a training mission of the Garuds," the IAF wrote on X

The airstrip lies close to the Line of Control (LoC) in the Union Territory of Ladakh. It is situated near the Srinagar-Leh Highway, which was the focus of the Pakistan troops during the 1999 Kargil War.

This training exercise was to test the special operations launch capability at night. It is significant for time-critical operational mobilization of troops and equipment to carry out special operations and also in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

MORAL POLICING

## Boy, cousin sister beaten up in Belagavi, 9 held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

IN an incident of moral policing in Belagavi, a group of miscreants allegedly assaulted a boy and his cousin sister, who were sitting on a bench on the Fort Lake premises on Saturday.

The police have arrested nine people in this connection. A search is on for the other accused.

The injured victims have been identified as Sachin Lamani, a resident of Goundwad village, and Muskan from BK Kangrali village in Belagavi taluk.

The arrested have been identified as Mohammed Hussain Noor Ahmed Inamadar, 22, and Saif Ali Naseem Ali Mullani Ismail Magadum, 27, of Ramanagar, Atif Amhed Abdul Majeed Shaikh, 22, of Shivaji Nagar, Mohammed Aman Gulamhussain Chabuksawar of Azad Nagar, Umar Sadiq Badiger, 19, and Azan Abiden Kalkundri, 19, of Veerbhadranagar, Rihan Mohammad Gous Rotiwale, 19, of Camp, and two minor boys.

The accused dragged the victims to an abandoned shed on the Fort Lake premises and locked them there. They later assaulted them for almost three hours.

According to sources, the mothers of the victims are sisters. The father of the girl was a Muslim and died 11 years ago. P7

## In Ram's name: Siddu govt tells temples to hold pooja on Jan 22

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AMID protests by BJP leaders against the arrest of a Hindu activist in Hubballi in a 1992 riot case, the Congress government in the state has issued a circular to all temples under the Endowment (Muzrai) Department to perform a special pooja on January 22 when the idol of Ram Lalla will be installed in Ayodhya.

The circular stated the idol will be installed at the newly built Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, the birth place of Lord Ram. On this occasion, all temples under the department should perform the special pooja for the wellbeing of the people of the state and country.

Reacting to the circular, Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka said Congress leaders finally bowed before Lord Ram. "This is a victory for the fight of Hindu activists. It is Hindutva's victory against vested interests," he added. Meanwhile, BJP leaders launched "Mane manege mantrakshathe abhiyan" (distribution of sacred rice) across the state on Sunday.

EXPRESS READ

**YSRC MLC's brother stoned to death in AP**

Kurnool: A 57-year-old mentally-ill man was stoned to death when he was asleep on a footpath at RS Pendekal village in Kurnool district late on Saturday. The victim Pujari Ramudu was brother of YSRC MLC Pothula Sunitha P7

## HASINA SECURES RECORD 5th term as PM

Bangladesh's Awami League won over 200 seats in the 300-seat Parliament, while counting was still underway late on Sunday night after a day-long, violence-marred voting

**BLASTS & GUNSHOTS**

- Four persons, including a child, injured after two crude bombs exploded near a voting centre in Dhaka
- Two people injured after shots were fired during a clash between supporters of two rival candidates in Chattogram
- An Awami League supporter stabbed to death in Munshiganj district near Dhaka, officials said
- Two people injured in clashes between supporters of Awami League and an independent candidate in Jamalpur's Sharishabari

PTI

**LOW TURNOUT**

JAN 8 When the final results will be announced

1,500 candidates from 27 political parties

100 foreign observers, including three from India

With the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) boycotting the election, Sheikh Hasina's Awami League was expected to win. BNP has called the electoral process "a sham"

40% is the voter turnout as per initial estimates. The 2018 election saw an overall turnout of 80% | PTI

## Airports, BSF on high alert as ED suspects Sheikh may flee to B'desh

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued a lookout notice for Shahjahan Sheikh, suspecting that the Trinamool leader might cross the international border into Bangladesh after Friday's attack on the agency's officials by his supporters, when the sleuths tried to search his house in connection with the foodgrain scam.

Sheikh is local leader of the Trinamool Congress. His house in Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas is close to the Bangladesh border.

The central agency alerted airports and Border Security Force (BSF) authorities by circulating his photographs.

Sources in the ED said the BSF has been put on high alert about Shahjahan Sheikh. "We have information that he is planning to flee to Bangladesh. The Border Guard Bangladesh is carrying out intense patrolling because of the elections in the neighbouring country. Shahjahan may wait for a couple of days to look for right opportunity to cross over," sources said.

Meanwhile, West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose instructed authorities to arrest Sheikh and investigate his alleged connection with terrorists, which drew sharp criticism from the ruling TMC.

Central Reserve Police Force personnel who accompanied the ED team during the raid were also attacked by Sheikh's men. Inspector General of CRPF, Birendra Kumar Singh on Sunday held a 30-minute meeting with the governor.

Shahjahan Sheikh

**No arrests till date**

The police lodged FIRs—against the ED, unruly mob who attacked the officials of the central agency and Shahjahan and his associates. No arrests have been made till now

## Only 7.2% of cybercrime cases cracked in B'luru

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

THE number of cybercrime cases hit the alarming figure of 17,623 in Bengaluru during 2023. Of the cases, only 1,271 have been cracked. This significant difference, accounting for only a 7.2% detection rate, highlights the challenge of identifying and combating cyber threats.

As this trend persists, the question that keeps popping up is, "Will tracking cybercrimes become more difficult in the coming years, posing a bigger challenge for law enforcement and cybersecurity efforts?"

Deputy Commissioner of Police (North) Saidulu Adavath, who recently cracked a FedEx courier scam, said an organised network operates through a layered structure here. Those in the first layer remain oblivious to the activities of the second, with some recruited solely for making online calls, while others in a subsequent layer are tasked with creating mule bank accounts. A few more in yet another layer handle the intricate process of transferring funds across multiple banks.

He said this chain operates without the full knowledge of cybercriminals involved. It is aware of only receiving money without a clear understanding of the underlying mechanisms. In the FedEx scam investigation, a breakthrough happened when it was discovered that four of the 12 accounts were operational in Davanagere. Immediately, we initiated efforts with other departments, pinpointing the locations that led to the initial arrest of eight fraudsters, followed by four more arrests. P5

**Statspeak**

In 2021, of the 6,422 cybercrime cases reported, 2,257 were cracked. In 2022, of the 9,940 cases, 2,431 were cracked. In 2023, 17,623 cases were reported and only 1,271 detected

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY (KIIT)
Deemed to be University
(Established U/S 3 of UGC Act) 1956, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

KIITEE 2024
APPLY NOW
through KIIT Websites
www.kiitee.ac.in/www.kiit.ac.in
No Examination Fee
(Computer Based Online Test)

Ranking & Recognition
16th Among Indian Universities Ranked by NIRF, Govt. of India
A++ Grade Accredited by NAAC
Tier 1 Reaccredited by NBA All Engineering Programs for 6 Years
THE World University Rankings 2023: 301-400 COMPUTER SCIENCE | 401-500 ENGINEERING | 601-800 UNIVERSITY RANKING
ABET (US) Accreditation

B.Tech (4 Years) in following branches of Engineering :
Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Electronics & Telecommunication, Electronics & Computer Science, Electronics and Electrical, Aerospace, Mechatronics, Mechanical (Automobile), Chemical, Computer Science, Information Technology, Computer Science and System, Computer Science and Communication

CAMPUS PLACEMENT 2023 HIGHLIGHTS
750 + companies
6200+ Job Offers
₹63LPA Highest Salary Offered
2000+ paid internship opportunities

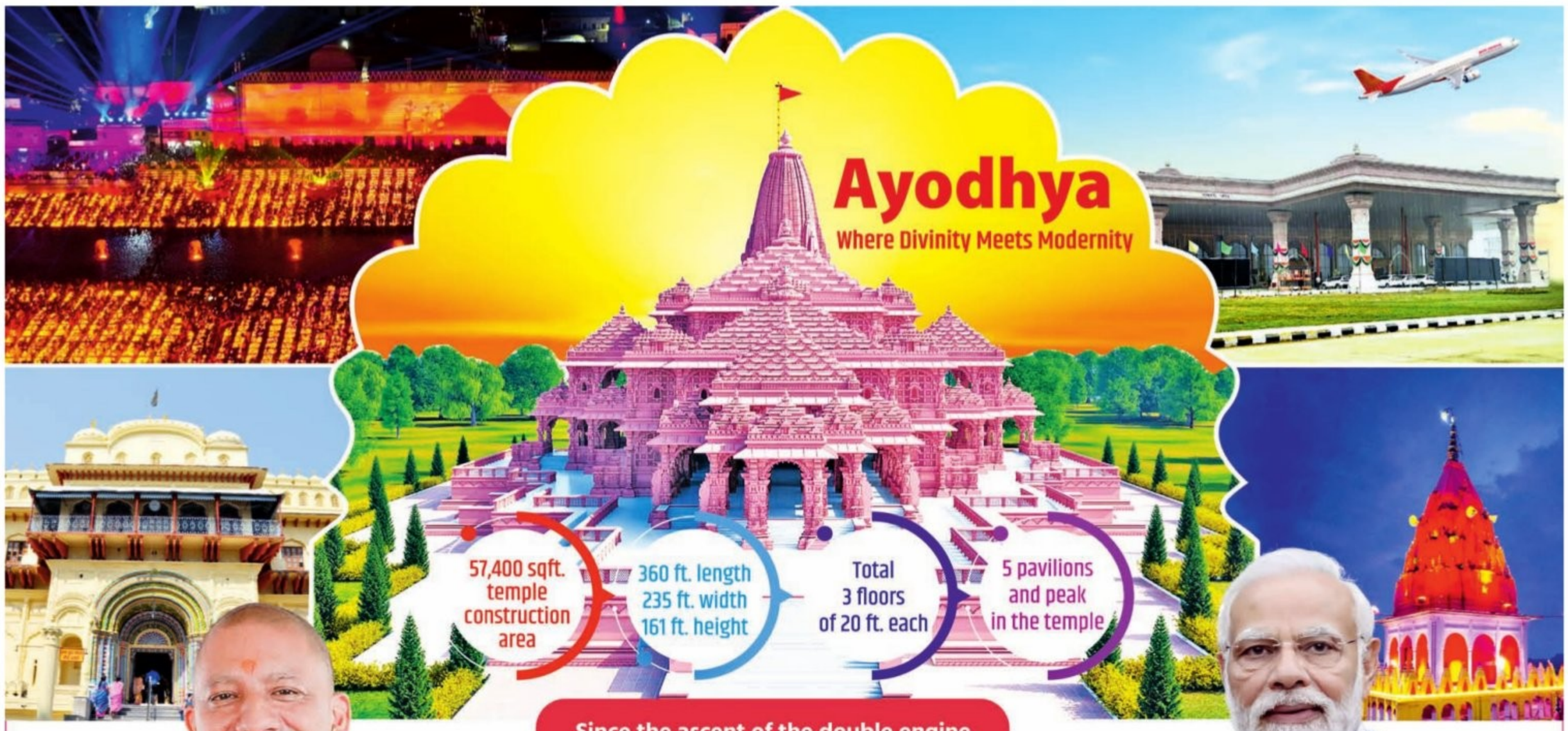
ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE

Bachelor's Programmes
- B. Design (Automobile/Graphic/Product) (4 Years)
- B.Tech & M.Tech-Biotechnology (5years)
- B. Arch. (5years)
- B. Tech. ( Lateral Entry) (3years)
- BCA (3years)
- BBA (3years)
- Bachelor of Design (Fashion / Textile) (4years)
- Bachelor of Film & Television Production(3years)
- BA.LL.B / BBA LL.B / B.Sc. LL.B (5years)
- Bachelor of Communication & Journalism(3years)
- BA in Economics (Hons)(4years)
- BA in Sociology (Hons)(4years)
- BA in English (Hons)(4years)
- B.A. in Psychology (Hons)(4years)
- B.Com (Hons)(4years)
- B.Sc. Computer Science (4years)
- B.Sc. Nursing (4years)
- B. Pharma (4 years)
- D.Pharma (2 Years)
- LLM(2years)

Master's Programmes
- M.Tech. (2years)
- MCA (2years)
- M.Sc Biotechnology (2years)
- M.Sc. Applied Microbiology(2years)
- M. Arch(2years)
- Int. M.Tech & Ph.D(5years)
- Master of Communication & Journalism(2years)
- Master in Sports & Yogic Sciences (2years)
- Master of Hospital Administration (2years)
- Master of Public Health (2years)
- M. Design (2 Years)
- M.Sc. Computer Science(2years)
- MA in Economics (2years)
- MA in Sociology(2years)
- MA in English(2years)
- MA in Psychology(2years)
- MA in Public Policy(2years)
- M.Com (2years)
- M.Sc. in Physics. / Chemistry. / Mathematics & Data Science (2years)
- M.Sc. Nursing (2years)
- Ph.D

Director, Admissions : Admission Cell, Koel Campus, Po- KIIT, Bhubaneswar-751024, Odisha, India, Ph: 8080 735 735, Fax : 0674 - 2741465, Email: admission@kiit.ac.in, Website: www.kiitee.ac.in

KIIT (Deemed to be University) has only one permanent campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It has no other campus / off campus anywhere else in the country and globe.


Ayodhya
Where Divinity Meets Modernity
57,400 sqft. temple construction area
360 ft. length
235 ft. width
161 ft. height
Total 3 floors of 20 ft. each
5 pavilions and peak in the temple

The overall development of 'Dharmnagari' Ayodhya is one of the top priorities of the government in line with the vision of the respected Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji. The people of the country and the world are eager to see a Divya, Bhavya, Navya Ayodhya. We have to ensure that every devotee, tourist visiting Ayodhya goes back with a special sense of peace, contentment and joy

**Yogi Adityanath,** Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

**Since the ascent of the double engine government, comprehensive development plans for Ayodhya have been set in motion. Besides restoring its glory, the sacred city is undergoing a modernisation process, introducing a range of amenities. Initiatives such as smart city, safe city, solar city, and greenfield township are shaping Ayodhya in alignment with these modernisation efforts to elevate it into a world-class city. The government's dedication to realising Ayodhya's transformation into a globally recognised city is approaching fruition.**

Ayodhya should manifest the finest of our traditions and the best of our developmental transformations. The human ethos of this city must be matched by futuristic infrastructure, which is beneficial for everyone, including tourists and pilgrims.The coming generations should feel the desire to visit Ayodhya at least once in their lifetime. It is our collective endeavour to celebrate the identity of Ayodhya and keep its cultural vibrancy alive through innovative ways

**Narendra Modi,** Prime Minister

## Historic Decisions

- First city to be developed with the **artificial intelligence** technology
- Formation of **Uttar Pradesh Shri Ayodhya Ji Teerth Vikas Parishad**
- Ayodhya to become the first **solar city**
- **Divya Deepotsav,** listed in Guinness Book of World Records
- **State fair status** accorded to all fairs organised at Ayodhya, including Deepotsav
- **International Status** given to Ayodhya Research Institute
- **Temple Museum** will be established in Majha Jamthara
- **Cabinet meeting** of Yogi Government at Ayodhya after Prayagraj
- **Lata Smriti Chowk** in honour of legendary singer Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar
- **National Highway** status granted to 84 Kosi parikrama marg

## 8 CONCEPTS OF TRANSFORMATION

**The city is undergoing developmental initiatives based on 8 key concepts, with the aim of restoring its unparalleled prosperity and transforming it into a city of prominence.**

**Sanskritik Ayodhya :** The objective is to transform Ayodhya into the cultural capital of India. Initiatives include the establishment of magnificent monasteries, temples, and ashrams, the construction of grand city gates, and the implementation of projects such as temple museums-all aligned with this strategic plan.

**Saksham Ayodhya :** In line with the Saksham Ayodhya concept, efforts are underway to develop Ayodhya as a fully self-reliant city. The objective is to generate substantial employment opportunities through various channels, including daily jobs, tourism, as well as religious and cultural activities.

**Adhunik Ayodhya :** In pursuit of Adhunik Ayodhya, the sacred city is undergoing a modernisation process, introducing a range of amenities. Initiatives such as Smart City, Safe City, Solar City, and Greenfield Township are shaping Ayodhya in alignment with these modernisation efforts.

**Sugamya Ayodhya :** In adherence to the Sugamya Ayodhya concept, whether it's the development of the Maharshi Valmiki International Airport, the revitalisation of Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station, or the establishment of connections between Saryu and the inland waterway, the central and state governments are diligently working to enhance the accessibility of Ayodhya. Additionally, various routes are being facilitated to ensure that devotees can conveniently reach this sacred city.

**Suramya Ayodhya :** Under Suramya Ayodhya, efforts are focused on enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the city. This includes beautifying numerous ponds, lakes, and ancient reservoirs, reviving old gardens, establishing new ones, and improving the city's allure through heritage lighting systems that eliminate the clutter of wires. Street illumination with facade lighting and various initiatives are contributing to the development of Ayodhya as an enchanting city.

**Bhavnatmak Ayodhya :** In alignment with Bhavnatmak Ayodhya, the emotional bond that the global Sanatani community shares with the birthplace of Lord Shri Rama is deeply significant. Considering this, every aspect of Ayodhya is being infused with the sentiment of being connected to Shri Ram. With this objective, cultural enhancements are being incorporated into city walls, roadsides and intersections.

**Swacch Ayodhya :** As the name suggests, Swacch Ayodhya, cleanliness takes precedence as a top priority for the double engine government in its vision of a smart city. Comprehensive efforts are underway, encompassing cleanliness initiatives and the development of drainage and sewer systems within the city. The Chief Minister has pledged to make Ayodhya, emerging as a prominent center for tourism and religious faith, the cleanest city in the country.

**Ayushman Ayodhya :** In the Ayushman Ayodhya concept, the health infrastructure of Ayodhya has been reinforced to deliver high-quality and convenient medical facilities to patients. The Rajarshi Dashrath Autonomous State Medical College, not only provides medical services but also conducts extensive research on emergency medical facilities.

### TEMPLE MUSEUM
A showcase for history of famous Indian temples

### WAX MUSEUM
To come up on 2 acres, the museum will be dedicated to key characters from Ramayana and also have statues of famous personalities

### AYODHYA HAAT
Ghats of the Saryu to be developed with food kiosks and vending carts and attention to ensuring zero waste generation

### SANDHYA SAROVAR
Open air food zone with multiple restaurants, food stalls.
Three lagoons/water bodies to be created with boating, ziplining, slacklining facilities

### TENT CITY
Multiple tent cities planned to house tourists, providing luxury and budget options

## Construction is in full swing of 147.2 km long Ram Van Gaman Path at a cost of ₹4403 crore

**Glimpse of Ayodhya**

- Greenfield Township Project of 1,407 acre : ₹2,182 crore
- Construction of Maharshi Valmiki International Airport Ayodhya Dham : ₹1463 crore
- Construction of Ram path from Sahadatganj to Nayaghat road (12.94 km.) : ₹845 crore
- Construction of Rajarshi Dashrath Autonomous State Medical College : ₹246 crore
- Redevelopment of Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station : ₹241 crore
- Undergrounding of overhead electricity wires : ₹167 crore
- Construction of ROB at Badi Bua Railway Crossing located at Railway Crossing No. 112 Panchkosi Parikrama Marg : ₹74 crore
- Installation of heritage decorative poles in various wards of the city : ₹72 crore
- Construction of Maharishi Arundhati Parking, Sankul (East & West) : ₹68 crore
- Construction of road from Bhakti Path to Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Path via Hanumangarhi (29 km.) : ₹68 crore
- Widening and expansion of road from NH 27 to Naya Ghat old bridge (2 km.) (Dharmpath) : ₹65 crore
- Establishment of CIPET : ₹40 crore
- Multilevel Parking Near Collectorate : ₹37 crore
- Strengthening and renovation work of the Bhakti path from Ram Ki Paidi to Rajghat and from Rajghat to Shri Ram Temple : ₹23 crore
- Construction of audience gallery for Deepotsav and other fairs/festivals at Ram Ki Paidi : ₹23 crore
- 140 TPD capacity solid waste management plant in tehsil Sohawal village Pirkhauli : ₹18 crore
- Conservation and beautification of four historical entrance gates in Ayodhya : ₹15 crore
- Installation of 410 smart solar street lights from Guptar ghat to Raj ghat : ₹12 crore

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

# BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 08/01/2024 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Hiramtha • Masa: Margashira • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Dwadasi 8.46 pm • Nakshatra: Anuradha 7.39 pm • Moon in Dhanur Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 19°C | MAX 24°C
FORECAST Cloudy

Sunrise 6.44 am
Sunset 6.08 pm
Moonrise 3.25 am
Moonset 3.02 pm



# Shops in houses now have to pay taxes

As per rule, such units should be categorised 'commercial', says BBMP official

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BRUHAT Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) which has been sending SMS to over 6 lakh property tax defaulters, is also sending notices to shops functioning in residential areas to cough up taxes. As per rule, shops and small hotels which are functioning in a residential area should be categorised as 'commercial' and should be paying tax as a commercial unit, stated a senior BBMP official. The civic body is exploring all the options to improve property tax collection.

Further, it is serving notices to properties, that have underassessed their properties and have not declared new additions (additional floors or rooms) and have evaded tax.

"Many of my neighbours have received notices asking them to pay up property tax to the tune of Rs 2 lakh and more. Some property owners have made additions to the buildings by constructing additional floors and others have rented their spaces for commercial purposes. Property owners have been asked to pay up for the differences in the property tax along with cess from the time the additional construction was done. Since then, properties have received commercial electric connection," said a property owner at Srirampura, which falls under BBMP's Gandhinagar revenue division.

There are many such property owners who have been served notices by the BBMP to pay up property tax for the units that are being operated as commercial and the differences in property tax assessment along with interest. Fearing action by BBMP, some property tax owners have paid their dues. However, some are waiting for the BBMP to reduce the tax burden as they have to cough up the dues that run in lakhs.

A senior BBMP official said, "Shops take power supply from BESCOM under the commercial category. In the same way, they have to pay taxes as commercial units and not as residential."

An artist displays his works at the 21st Chitra Santhe on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

# CM announces ₹50L for CKP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah announced a grant of Rs 50 lakh to Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath (CKP) on Sunday while inaugurating the 21st edition of Chitra Santhe. Emphasising the importance of art and its growing demand, the CM said that the State Government will provide necessary assistance to establish museums and art galleries in all districts in the state.

Siddaramaiah also acknowledged the rich heritage of Karnataka and praised the contribution of artists from across the country. The annual one-day event was expected to see 5 lakh attendees flocking the streets of Kumara Krupa Road. The area was filled with vibrant and colourful artworks, with many engrossed in the meaning behind the artwork.

This year's Chitra Santhe saw close to 1,600 artists from 22 states displaying their works. It also included specially-abled people and senior citizens. The festival saw various art forms such as acrylic painting, sculptures, charcoal painting, metal stone art and abstract painting. Traditional forms like Madhubani and Warli were also a part of some artists presenting their digital art forms. People with hearing and speaking disabilities also performed live pottery workshops. The artwork at the fair ranged from Rs 100 to Rs 2 lakh.

Sravani PT, an artist who participated in the fair said, "This is a great platform as artists like me don't have to wait for a separate exhibition to display our art. Such fair assures us that lakhs of people will visit and see my art. It is not necessary that the whole crowd is interested in art but reaching out to even half of them does the job."

Yona Patil, a second-year architecture student of PES University displayed her art for the second time and expressed how the festival has helped her in building a community of like-minded people. "Being a student, Chitra Santhe has boosted my interest," she said.

# Kalaloka stores to be set up at airport

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

TWO exclusive Kalaloka stores that will sell products recognised with Karnataka's identity, manufactured by state owned enterprises will be set up at Kempegowda International Airport by April, stated Large and Medium Industries minister MB Patil on Saturday.

The showrooms will house products by the Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited, Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation, Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation, Coffee Board and Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram Leather Industries Development Corporation Limited (popularly known as LIDKAR). Traditional products such as Channapatna toys, Ilakal sarees and Lambani embroidered attires will also be made available at the stores.

The sales stores will be set up at terminal-2 of the domestic and international departure zones.

"The setting up of these stalls intend to recognize local products with the state's identity for customers at the airport under one roof," Patil said. He said steps would be taken for global standard branding of products considering the customers at the airport and Industries Department would monitor the process.

Patil explained that though Coffee Board would come under the ambit of the Central government, coffee of local flavours would be made available. In addition, homegrown varieties of coffee powder will be sold at the stores.

# MCC move to go co-ed evokes mixed response

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

Among the colleges in the city, Mount Carmel College has been preferred widely by girls, owing to parents considering the institution safe due to its all-girls atmosphere. While education has been considered crucial, parents are particular about the co-ed education system.

A second-year student stated that the college assured safety with a predominantly female staff which met parents' concerns. This comes after the institution's decision of opening admissions for all UG and PG courses. While the faculty views it as a progressive step, a significant number of students, who are from minority communities, are upset with the management's move to make the institute co-ed as part of the pursuit of university status.

One of the students expressed disappointment, mentioning the lack of safe spaces for non-binary and queer individuals. The recent changes have left the students disheartened. They appear to jeopardise the supportive atmosphere the students have found within the college premises.

Some students said if transitioning to a university was the goal, maintaining its legacy as the first women's university in Bangalore could have been considered. One of the assistant professors said the transition to a co-ed college is a move that is most looked-forward to. The initiative will promote inclusivity and expand educational opportunities for a more diverse learning environment.

**Recent changes have left the students disheartened. They appear to jeopardise the supportive atmosphere the students have found within the college premises**

Sources

# In a first, 31m U-girder cast for suburban rail project in city

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FOR the first time in the country, a 31-metre-long U-girder was cast on Saturday night at Devanahalli yard for Corridor-2 of Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP), which is also called the Mallige line.

The line includes the construction of around 8 km viaduct or elevated section from Hebbal to Yeshvanthpur using such U-girders, the Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (K-RIDE) said in a statement on Sunday.

U-girders are U-shaped, pretensioned, precast girders that allow the track to be laid the right away. U-girders are widely used in metro projects all over the world as they not only ensure superior quality, but also save construction time. So far, 28-meter-long U-girders have been used in other metros. These girders are cast in the yards and transported to the location and launched over piers using high-capacity cranes/ launchers. It requires careful planning and accuracy to cast these U-girders in casting yards, away from the cities, K-RIDE said.

The U-girder being readied at Devanahalli yard for Corridor-2 of BSRP | EXPRESS

Industries Minister MB Patil said, "It is a momentous occasion that a single-span, 31-meter-long pre-tensioned U-girder has been successfully cast here in Bengaluru, for BSRP. It is the first time in the country that such a 31-meter U- girder will be used for rail-based transport infrastructure. I have always believed that the BSRP with its many innovations, is not just going to be a game changer for Karnataka but will also change the way we visualise commuter rail travel."

## EXPRESS READ

### Infosys' Sudha Murty releases autobiography of MR Doreswamy

Bengaluru: Sudha Murthy, Infosys Foundation Chairperson on the occasion of the golden jubilee celebration of PES Institution, released 'Kanasu Nanasayitu', the autobiography of MR Doreswamy, Founder-Chairman, PES Institutions and Chancellor of PES University on Sunday. Day four of the celebrations of Speaker Conclave, revolved around the theme 'Bharat Unleashed'. The event discussed 'Entrepreneurial ecosystem: Accelerating the path to sustainability.' MR Doreswamy addressing the students stated that one should cultivate the habit of giving back to the society, when having received so much from it. He advised students to aim high in life and adopt good values. Sai Deepak Jayakumar, Advocate, Supreme Court of India, in his address spoke about the three Cs that are essential to accelerate sustainability in entrepreneurship. He also advised students to be indigenous in their thoughts and choose the entrepreneurial path.

### City to host International Children Chess Tournament in June

Bengaluru: For the first time, Bengaluru will be hosting the Universal First Age Category International Children Chess Tournament in June and July, said R Upendra Shetty, Chairman of the Universal Group of Institutions during the inaugural event of the Universal First Age Category Children State-level Chess Tournament held at UGI Campus in Ramohalli on Sunday. Shetty emphasized the tournament's aim to provide a perfect platform for young chess talents. Mascot of the first Bangalore International Grandmasters Open Chess Tournament which will be held between January 18 and 26 at Kanteerava Indoor Stadium was also unveiled on the occasion. "We are here to support this ancient Indian game. India has the world's best chess players. This tournament will definitely help young minds to start playing and enjoying chess," said Shetty. Over 400 participants participated in the tournament.

### Proposal to hike PU admission fees sent to government

Bengaluru: THE Department of Pre-University Education submitted a formal proposal to the Karnataka government seeking permission to revise fees for admissions, new affiliations and renewal of affiliations. The proposal has been sent to the Finance Department and is waiting for approval for the academic year 2024-25. "The fee was last revised in 2018-19 and there has been no revision since then. According to the norms, fee revision is due for 2024-25," stated the proposal. The department added that considering the need for infrastructure development, the revised fee structure has been proposed. Meanwhile, the student community is of the opinion that if the department gets the nod, fees will be increased and given the number of dropouts in higher education, the situation will worsen. All-India Democratic Student Organisation requested the government to not approve the proposal in the interest of economically-backward students.

### Postal covers on mental wellness, traditional games unveiled

Bengaluru: At the 13th State Level Philatelic Exhibition, KARNAPEX-2024 held in Bengaluru on Sunday, Karnataka Postal Circle unveiled special covers, capturing unique themes including 'Nurturing Mental Wellness: Self-care and Social Culture,' 'Millets-Smart Food-For Better Health,' 'Ragi Mudde or Finger Millet Ball,' 'Traditional food-Jolada Rotti' and 'Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium.' Additionally, special covers on ten traditional games, including Hopscotch or Kuntebille, Spinning the Top or Lattu, Kambala, Pagade, Saalu Mane Aata, Ali Guli Mane, Chowa Baara, Havu-Eni Aata or snakes and ladders, Gilli Danda, and Lagori were also released. Psychologist Vaishnavi R Kanzal engaged with the audience, discussing various strategies to maintain a good mental health. Padmashree Awardee and Olympian Dr MP Ganesh addressed the audience and stressed on the importance of keeping children away from excessive screen time.

# Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

**08TH January : According to one of my old books, Monday is special to that delightful flower, the Tigerlily. And, if you're wondering, tomorrow's flower is the Hollyhock and Wednesday's is the Bluebell. Not all these flowers grow everywhere and I've no idea who created these associations, but why quibble? Flowers are good things no matter what the day!**

**ARIES** (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Underlying much that happens at the moment is your personal wish to succeed, a drive which affects both you and your friends, whether or not you care to admit it. Today, you'd be advised to pay attention to a business matter, if only because other pressures have eased.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21 - May 21)
This could be a week of change in a number of areas, and it will be absolutely necessary to raise your sights from the hurts and wounds of the past and focus on what you can do to better yourself in the future. Continue to check out a legal or ethical question.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21)
The golden rule is to stay one step ahead of planetary influences and to pre-empt imminent developments in financial arrangements. This may not be easy because you're still in the dark about someone's intentions. But even your plans are in a state of flux.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23)
A blow to your financial hopes will be softened by the intervention of a close friend over the coming days, yet something that seems like a loss now, will be to your advantage in the long run. It will take some time to get over a recent personal challenge, but in the end you will gain massively in experience and self-understanding.

**LEO** (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You may feel a lifting of tension, which will no doubt be a welcome development in view of recent personal pressures. Working relationships in particular are now ready for an improvement. A cash crisis will blow over, but might reappear after about eight weeks.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Secret disputes have cost you dear in terms of peace of mind, yet shortly you'll be better able to stand up for yourself and turn the tables on someone who has got the better of you. You will have your reward very soon, but not just yet, so have patience.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
By rights, you should now be feeling the beneficial results of all those past actions which helped create your present wealth, but life is rarely so simple. You may, in fact, have received a financial shock. However, family concerns lie at the heart of all current uncertainty.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You are entitled to spend some time recovering from events which may have shaken your confidence. Take your time and curb any tendency to act rashly. Also, remember that you have skills and experience which are highly valued, and you need to go out there and sell yourself.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You are not by nature a resentful person, yet you may have every reason to believe that recent suspicions have been fully justified by events. Now you should really try to let bygones be bygones and make a fresh start. And there'll be plenty of new opportunities very soon.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
As long as confusing planetary conditions continue, there seems to be a definite connection between the possibility or actuality of a social clash and the likelihood that you're letting yourself in for a major expense. And it could be one which takes a very long time to pay off.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
It is when your ruling planets form stressful aspects that you may expect the sparks to fly in partnerships. However, right now there is little to get in the way of a burgeoning personal relationship or a professional ambition. Bearing in mind this is a year of major opportunity, anything could happen.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
While the planets maintain their current formation, you can expect help and assistance in certain areas of your life, especially your career, but ultimately you won't achieve anything you haven't worked for. So, give yourself a pat on the back.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

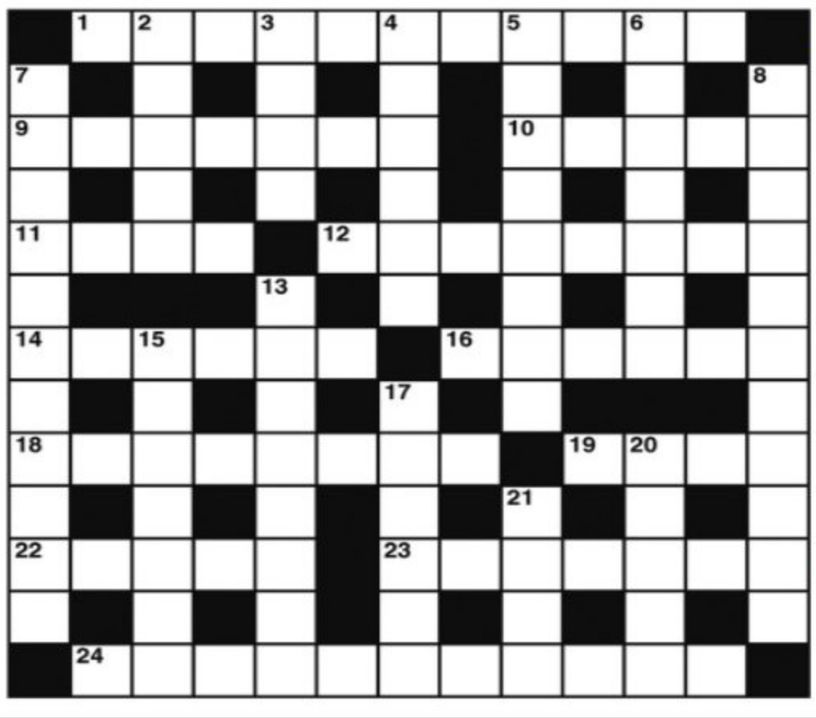
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 8 | 7 | | 5 | | 1 |
| | 8 | | | 2 | | 3 | | |
| | | 4 | | 3 | 9 | | 6 | |
| 8 | | 5 | | 6 | 3 | 4 | | |
| | | | 9 | | 7 | | | |
| | | 2 | 5 | 8 | | 9 | | 6 |
| | 2 | | 3 | 9 | | 6 | | |
| | | 8 | | 4 | | | 5 | |
| 3 | | 6 | | 5 | 8 | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| 4 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 9 |
| 6 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| 5 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 7 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| 3 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 |

## SUDOKU EASY

**TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE**

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



## CROSS WORD

**ACROSS**

1 Plainly it's said to describe a type of truck (11)
9 Puzzle that's nothing if not negative (7)
10 I get shot about in the lift (5)
11 Kind of help in office (4)
12 Force the company to take Eric on in design (8)
14 Dark thoughts? (6)
16 Another fruit carried in the banana ship (6)
18 Control shown as others fall (8)
19 Engage me with a plea for silence (4)
22 He'll give support in return (5)
23 Legal or otherwise it's a lively movement (7)
24 He's a mess and suffers humiliation (11)

**DOWN**

2 Hastily make and hoist a flag (3,2)
3 I had taken the French loaf (4)
4 Possibly push to a conclusion (6)
5 Supporter likely to maintain contact (8)
6 One impression of the publishing trade (7)
7 It will be presented by a group at one (6,5)
8 How near David got to Goliath? (6,5)
13 It's always used up when needed (8)
15 Flag officers? (7)
17 May be in leaf at last (6)
20 They cut in inches (5)
21 Design for a tailless aircraft (4)

**YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS**

**Across:** 1 Hearts, 4 Asterisk, 9 Nonage, 10 Positive, 12 Snap, 13 Gusto, 14 Glad, 17 False economy, 20 Glass slipper, 23 Ewes, 24 Essay, 25 Isis, 28 Calledon, 29 Tailor, 30 Nowadays, 31 Lessee.

**Down:** 1 Hands off, 2 Annually, 3 Togs, 5 Shooting star, 6 Emit, 7 Tickle, 8 Kneads, 11 Success story, 15 Heals, 16 Ambit, 18 Apostles, 19 Preserve, 21 Beacon, 22 Fellow, 26 Reed, 27 Nave.

## JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

FGEFA

CANTE

CURGOH

PAIMRI

I remember my dad explaining how it's like adding a number to another, repeatedly.
Thanks, Dad! I was having trouble calculating it all.
11/10
WHEN HE SHOWED HIS SON HOW TO SOLVE MATH PROBLEMS, HE WAS ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

©2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: POISE LIBEL JOGGER UTMOST
Answer: When it came to being a lead singer, Diana Ross did a — SUPREME JOB

Dakshina Kannada police have solved the case of vandalisation of Lord Ram's banner by tracing the 'culprit', a mentally-challenged elderly man. The banner was found vandalised on January 5. BJP and VHP sought the arrest of culprits. It was found that a man tore the banner to offer his prayers and people witnessed it

# Influencer fined for creating nuisance on Metro trains

Instagrammer goes to Upparpet police station, gives written apology for his behaviour after BMRCL complaint

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

A 27-year-old social media influencer, who was creating nuisance inside Metro trains on and off, was booked and penalised on Saturday. He and his mother visited the Upparpet police station on Saturday and apologised for his behaviour, said a Metro Rail source.

**Santhosh Kumar**, a resident of Geddalahalli in Bengaluru, is unemployed. He has studied up to SSLC and has 1.62 lakh followers on Instagram (Yash_Gowda_0271).

He shot videos wearing colourful shirts and a pair of coolers with a white-frame. "Kumar had the habit of screaming loudly inside Metro trains and shocking co-passengers. He would upload the reel with the reaction of passengers on Instagram. The post would be removed after it became popular and then uploaded again. One of the reels made its way to the officers of BMRCL in which he is surrounded by Metro passengers. He is seen screaming at the top of his voice to his mother on a video call that he was travelling

by Metro. Commuters have expressions of disgust or shock," the source explained.

BMRCL asked its security team to keep an eye on his social media accounts and was on the look out for him, he added.

Kumar recently uploaded pictures of him and his friends on his two-wheeler with the registration number displayed. "Using the registration number, his address and details were gathered. A complaint was registered against him at the Upparpet police station on Friday. The police were not very keen to take our complaint. Metro's Security Officer Puttamadaiah insisted action needs to be taken against Kumar. The cops relented and accepted the complaint," said an official. Cops asked Kumar to come down to the station. "Accompanied by his mother, he met cops and submitted a written apology," the official said.

The prankster was called to Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Interchange Metro station on Saturday and booked under Section 59 (1) of Metro Act for creating nuisance on BMRCL premises. "He was made to pay a penalty of Rs 500 and let off with a warning," the official added. He was told to remove all posts on Metro from his Instagram handle.

# 'FRAUDSTERS NOT AWARE OF KINGPIN'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ALTHOUGH 12 people were involved in the courier scam, none of them had the knowledge of the actual operator and each other's role behind the scenes, as each operates from multiple states. Their involvement was confined to recruitment through the Telegram group and receiving payment for their roles in making online calls. The nature of this organised and sophisticated operation via technology shielded even the fraudsters involved from knowing the mastermind orchestrating their activities, he said.

While the Police Department is actively addressing cybercrime, the ultimate solution is in prevention through heightened awareness. People should verify all online activities and refrain from trusting online operators and share personal information such as government IDs and mobile OTPs. In a rapidly advancing digital world, it is crucial to be cautious to safeguard hard-earned money. A single click can lead to significant losses. People must use common sense while interacting with anyone online, Adavath said.

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner B Dayananda said, "To enhance reporting procedures, we have permitted registration of cyber complaints with law and order police stations, streamlining the process for quicker assistance. Additionally, we conduct regular meetings with nodal officers from various banks for better coordination and effective recovery of money during investigations. Moreover, we have ensured implementation of essential digital tools and techniques in every police station to track and address cybercrime cases efficiently."

There are 18 patterns of cybercrime, including online job fraud, cryptocurrency investments and sextortion, resulting in a loss of over Rs 500 crore. Of the patterns recorded, online job fraud cases were reported the most till December 2023 in the Startup City.

**NUMBER OF CASES**

| YEAR | Reported | |
|---|---|---|
| 2021 | 6,422 | 2,257 |
| 2022 | 9,940 | 2,431 |
| 2023 | 17,623 | 1,271 |

# Kerehalli files complaint against fake WA messages

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

RIGHT-wing activist Puneeth Kerehalli has filed a complaint with the Basavanagudi police, stating that fake WhatsApp messages were created using his phone number to create communal unrest.

The move comes after senior Congress leader B K Hariprasad shared a screenshot of a purported conversation in the WhatsApp group of Rashtra Rakshana Pade, which is run by Kerehalli, that showed the latter claiming that he was given the task to start communal riots by the BJP.

Based on Kerehalli's complaint, the police registered a non-cognisable report (NCR) without naming the 'counter party'.

Demanding the registration of an FIR, Kerehalli and his supporters sat on a protest in front of the police station. He alleged that the police were not ready to receive the complaint as it was against a Congress leader. "This is the state of affairs in Karnataka. If anyone creates fake messages using the CM's or minister's details, immediate action will be taken.

In my case, the police are not ready to mention Hariprasad's name at all. He should reveal who shared with him the screenshots of the WhatsApp conversation," he said.

# FIR against Ramesh Jarkiholi for 'loan fraud'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE city police registered an FIR against former minister and BJP MLA Ramesh Jarkiholi for not repaying a loan of Rs 439.7 crore taken from a cooperative bank.

The complaint was filed by the general manager of Karnataka State Cooperative Apex Bank Limited, Rajanna (56), on Friday. According to the FIR, Ramesh Jarkiholi and the directors Soubhagya Laxmi Sugars Ltd sought a loan from the bank to develop the factory. Jarkiholi was the former chairman and managing director of the sugar company. The FIR also names Vasanth V Patil and Shankar A Powade, who are the other directors of the factory.

The bank released Rs 232.88 crore to the factory between July 12, 2013 and March 31, 2017 across different branches of the bank. However, none of the accused repaid any portion of the loan, resulting in the amount going up to Rs 439.7 crore, including interest, as of August 31, 2023.

As per regulations, any change in the factory's managing director or directors should be notified to the bank. But the accused had unilaterally stepped down from their positions without notifying the bank and subsequently appointed individuals related to them as new managing directors and directors, to evade loan repayment, the FIR read.

The Vishveshwarapuram police registered a case under IPC Section 406 (criminal breach of trust) and 420 (cheating).

**RISKY ROUTE**

Risking their lives, pedestrians cross the busy Mysuru-Bengaluru highway even though a skywalk is built near Kengeri Satellite Bus Stand | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

**EXPRESS READ**

### Bullets found in bag at Belagavi airport

Belagavi: Bullets were found in the bag of an army officer, travelling to Hyderabad from Belagavi, on Sunday. Marihal police have taken the officer into custody for inquiry. The officer, serving as captain in the Indian Army at Dehradun, had come to the Commando Centre, Belagavi for training. The live bullets were found in his bag at the Sambra airport in Belagavi, while he was returning after the training. The incident was reported to the senior army officers of Maratha Light Infantry Regiment Centre (MLIRC), Belagavi.

### CCB busts prostitution ring disguised as spa

Bengaluru: The CCB police arrested a man for operating a prostitution ring disguised as a massage parlour in Mahadevapura. About 44 young women were rescued from the multi-storied building, purportedly a massage parlour, was found to be engaged in flesh trade. Police said the accused has been identified as Anil. The CCB's Women's Protection Wing conducted a four-hour raid based on a tip-off regarding illegal activities within the building. Anil had recently moved to Bengaluru, and used the spa as a facade for trading young women.

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

/thenewindianxpress @newindianxpress +The New Indian Express

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

General Public are hereby notified that I have lost my original Two Sale Deed bearing registration documents Nos. 1) JPN-1-01543/2020-21, C.D. No.JPND903, Book I, Date: 29/6/2020 and 2) JPN-1-01320/2022-23, C.D. No.JPND1369, Book I, Date: 7/5/2022 and another document of Gift Deed bearing registration No.JPN-1-10914/2022-23, C.D. No.JPND1569, Book I, Date: 27/1/2023 from Uttarahalli BMTC Bus Stop, Bangalore South Taluk, Finders, please inform to the below address.

**C. Lavanya** D/o K. Chandrappa # Kasapura Village, 1st Line Kasapur, Gudekota,Bellary, Karnataka-583130. Mobile: 9480726142.

**R. BASAVARAJA,** ADVOCATE & NOTARY # 22, "Navya Tejasvi Nilaya" Geddalahalli, RMV 2nd Stage Bangalore - 560 094. Call: 9880709722/9743133384

**SUB COURT SATHYAMANGALAM, TAMILNADU**
**MCOP No. 4/2022**

**Jestin,** S/o Sunny ... **PETITIONER -V/s- Sukumar (Owner),** S/o. Subramaniam, Panchayathi Beedi, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Karnataka -562107. ... **2nd RESPONDENT**

**NOTICE**

The above Petitioner is filed Motor Accident Claim Petition for the injured in the Motor Accident on 01.09.2021 before the Claim Tribunal at Sathyamangalam ERODE DT, TAMILNADU State in MCOP NO. 4/2022. The above case is Posted to **29.02.2024** for the appearance of you at about **10:00 A.M** You are called upon to appear in Person or by pleader in the above petition without fail. Otherwise the above Case will be decided a Exparte.

**V. NAGARAJAN,** Advocate
Sathyamangalam Taluk, Erode District. Tamilnadu.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority-Karnataka (Constituted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) Government of India), has accorded the Environmental Clearance for Proposed Residential Apartment and a Club House Project on the property at Sy. Nos. 36, 37/1&37/2, Uttari Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District is being developed by M/s. GRC Infra Pvt. Ltd., vide order No. SEIAA 04 CON 2023 Dated 18.03.2023. The said copy of environment clearance is available with the SEIAA office and the website of MOEF&CC at https://parivesh.nic.in

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority-Karnataka (Constituted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) Government of India), has accorded the Environmental Clearance for Proposed Residential Apartment and a Club House Project on the property at Sy. Nos. 63/4, 63/5, 63/6,63/7, 63/8, 63/9, 63/10, 63/11, 63/12 & 63/13, Gottigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District is being developed by M/s. GRC Infra Pvt. Ltd., vide order No. SEIAA 04 CON 2023 Dated 18.03.2023. The said copy of environment clearance is available with the SEIAA office and the website of MOEF&CC at https://parivesh.nic.in

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The General Public are hereby informed that my client Emmanuel Aman Ministries (Emmanuel Aman Ministries Religious Social Welfare Education and Charitable Trust) Represented by Pastor. **V.M. Divyanathan**, S/o. A. Vedanayagam, Aged about 52 years, R/at No.1053, 6th Cross, R.K. Hegde Nagar, S.R.K. Nagar Post, Bengaluru -560 077, **AADHAR No.5715 3230 7116, PAN NO.AKGPD3426M,** informs that, my client is intending to purchase the Vacant **Site No.1051,** PID No.97/1051, formed in Government Sy No.97, situated at Rachenahalli Village, Ramakrishna Hegde Nagar, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru District, now comes under the Limits of Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.6, Dr. Shivarama Karanth Nagar Post, Bengaluru -560 077, measuring **East to West : 50 Feet, North to South : 30 Feet, totally 1500 square Feet** and bounded on: East by : Site No.969, West by : Road, North by : Site No.1052, South by : Site No.1050, for valuable sale consideration from legal heirs of **Smt. Sabira Begum W/o. Jaleeluddin** i.e. (1) **Smt. FARHANA JABEEN,** D/o. Late Jaleeluddin and Late Sabira Begum, Aged about 56 years, Aadhar No.7692 5028 7984, PAN No.ABPPF6500L, (2) **Smt. RIZWANA JABEEN,** D/o. Late Jaleeluddin and Late Sabira Begum, Aged about 54 years, Aadhar No.4892 7890 3300, PAN No.BFVPJ7544D, (3) **Sri. SUHEBUDDIN J.** S/o. Late Jaleeluddin and Late Sabira Begum, Aged about 52 Years, **Aadhar No.6191 6662 6093, PAN No.CNIPS7128H,** (4) **Smt. SHABANA** JABEEN, D/o. Late Jaleeluddin and Late Sabira Begum, Aged about 50 years, **Aadhar No.4511 5725 4143, PAN No.AUSPJ6837E,** (5) **Sri. MOINUDDIN JALEELUDDIN,** S/o. Late Jaleeluddin and Late Sabira Begum, Aged about 49 years, **Aadhar No.7335 2393 8776, PAN No.AQAPM1731C,** All are R/at No.172, Bradshaw Street, Near Coles Park, Neharupuram, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru -560 001, their mother **Smt. Sabira Begum W/o. Jaleeluddin** acquired the Schedule Property through the Government of Karnataka, Rep. by the Dy. Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban Dist. Bengaluru and also issued 'Hakku Pathra' Dated : 03-07-2007, Vide Hakkupatra No.335, Sl.No.5145/06-07 and subsequently, the concerned Tahsildar, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru has executed registered Sale Deed Dated:27-02-2009, (No.94C/E/K.R.2/CR/67/2006-07) vide Document No.BNS-1-04659/2008-09 of Book-I, Stored in C.D.No.BNSD 30, Registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Banaswadi, Bengaluru, the above said **Smt. Sabira Begum W/o. Jaleeluddin** died on 17-08-2022 and her husband Sri. Jaleeluddin also predeceased died on 28-01-1981, leaving behind they are only legal heirs /Vendors of deceased estate after the death of their mother they have been continued in peaceful, lawful, physical possession and enjoyment of the same as absolute owners thereof and they have sold the Schedule Property in favour of my client and my client intending to purchase the same.

The general public are hereby informed that any person/s having any manner of claim, interest or objection for the purchase of the above property by my clients referred above, they may submit their objections if any along with supporting documents to the undersigned within 1 Month from the date of this public notice, failing which it will be presumed that there are no objections and my client will be proceeding further to complete the sale transactions with legal heirs of **Late Sabira Begum W/o. Jaleeluddin i.e. Smt. FARHANA JABEEN, Smt. RIZWANA JABEEN, Sri. SUHEBUDDIN J. SMT. SHABANA JABEEN and Sri. MOINUDDIN JALEELUDDIN** Please note that any claims / objections / right over the above said property received after 1 Month from the date of this publication, will not be taken into consideration for any reason/s.

**V. MUNIRAJU,** Advocate,
No.4, Nikshaa Nilaya, 5th Cross, Sri. Balaji Krupa Layout,
Dr. Shivaramakaranthanagara post, R.K. Hegdenagara, Bengaluru-560 077.
Mob No.9448212412/9343418623
**V.M. Divyanathan** Mob No.9449764701

**CITY UNION BANK LIMITED**
**Credit Recovery and Management Department**
**Administrative Office:** No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

**RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002**

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.69,31,517/- (Rupees Sixty Nine Lakh Thirty One Thousand Five Hundred and Seventeen only)** as on **04-01-2024** together with further interest to be charged from **05-01-2024** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. Sree Anjana Enterprises, No.124, 1st Floor, 1st Cross, JNC Road, KHB Colony, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560095. Also at, M/s. Sree Anjana Enterprises, 4th Cross, No.82, Ground Floor, 7th Block, Bangalore Urban, Bangalore - 560095. No.2) Mrs. S. Gayathri, W/o. S.M. Krishna, No.142, 3rd Corss, 6th Block, 18th Main, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034. Also at, Mrs. S. Gayathri, W/o. S.M. Krishna, No.413, Ground Floor, 1st Cross, 7th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560095. No.3) Mr. S.M. Krishna, S/o. Anjaiah Setty, No.142, 3rd Cross, 6th Block, 18th Main, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034. Also at, Mr. S.M. Krishna, S/o. Anjaiah Setty, No.413, Ground Floor, 1st Cross, 7th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560095.**

**Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank**
**(Property Owned by Mr. S.M. Krishna, S/o. Anjaiah Setty)**

All that piece and parcel of the site bearing K. No. 323/24, Situated at Hulimangla Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Measuring East to West on the Northern Side 43 Feet and on the Southern Side 61 Feet and North to South 40 Feet. Total 2,080 Sq.Ft. and bounded on the : East by : Road, West by : The Property No.25, North by : The Property No.23, South by : Road.

**Reserve Price : Rs.45,00,000/-**
**(Rupees Forty Five Lakh only)**

**RE-AUCTION DETAILS**

| Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale | Venue |
|---|---|
| 06-02-2024 | **City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Koramangala Branch,** 92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560034. Telephone No.080-25630439, Cell No.9342874657 |

**Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :**

**(1)** The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Koramangala Branch, 92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560034. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-25630439, Cell No. 9342874657. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST, if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 06-01-2024** **Authorised Officer**

**Regd. Office:** 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR**
Mail ID : - sepwdbalangir@gmail.com
***e - Procurement Notice***
**BID IDENTIFICATION No: CCE(R&B) BGR / 44/ 2023-24**
**Letter No-16 // Dtd.04.01.2024**

**B-1565:** The **Chief Construction Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir** on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate composite bid in double cover system in **ONLINE MODE** for the construction of works detailed in the table below from **"B" & "A"** Class Contractors registered with the State Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/ Class registered with Central Government/ MES/ Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

1. Nature of Work : Building Work
2. No. of tender : Building Work-01 No.
3. Tender Cost : Rs.10,000/-
4. Class of Contractor : **"B" & "A"**
5. Date & Time of sale & Receipt of Bids : **From Dt.08.01.2024, 10.00 A.M to Dt. 20.01.2024 up to 05.00 P.M.**
6. Date of opening Bid : Dt.22.01.2024 at 11.00 A.M.
7. The bidders have to participate in **ONLINE** bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: http://tendersorissa.gov.in. All future corrigendum will be available on **ONLINE MODE** only.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir

OIPR-34131/11/0047/2324

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**FORM NO. URC-2**

**Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act, 2013 [Pursuant to section 374(b) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 4(1) of Companies (Authorized to Register) Rules, 2014]**

**1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made after fifteen days hereof but before the expiry of thirty days hereinafter to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6,7,8, Sector -5 IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon- 122050, Haryana that SITAS, a partnership firm may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act, 2013, as a company limited by shares with the name SITAS-NDT ENGINEERS PRIVATE LIMITED.**

**2. The principle objects of the Company are as follows:**

- To carry on the business of X-Ray Radiography by using Industrial X- Ray Machines on all kinds of weldings, castings, pipelines, high pressure valves, Aircrafts, pistons, penstocks, girders, harton spheres and ships.
- To carry on the business of Ultrasonic inspection by using Ultra-sonic flaw detectors and probes on all kinds of weldings, castings, forgings, heavy thickness plates and rounds.
- To carry on the business of Magnetic Particle Inspection by using MPT Equipments on all kinds of weldings, castings, girders and Boiler Components.
- To carry on the business of Local Stress relieving by induction coil method using temperature recorders with accessories on all kinds of welded pipe joints, castings and pressure vessels.

**3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at NO. C-72, 3rd Stage, Peenya Industrial Area, Bengaluru – 560 058.**

**4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6,7,8, Sector -5 IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon- 122050, Haryana within twenty one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.**

**Dated this 5th day of January of 2024**

Names of the Applicant
**1. A Vijayasarathy 2. Rajalaxmi 3. Vivek Attavar 4. Vishnu Attavar**

**Union Bank of India**
**BANASHANKARI BRANCH (20182)**
No. 185, Ground Floor, 17th Main, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 070.

**POSSESSION NOTICE**
**[See Rule-8(1)] (For immovable Property)**

Whereas: The undersigned being the authorised officer of Union Bank of India, under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **17-10-2023** calling upon the borrowers **1) M/s. SRI SAI CHAITANYA ENTERPRISES, Prop. K. MADHAVARAJU, No. 111, 8th Cross, Anandnagar, Venkatappa Layout, Hosakerehalli, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560078. 2) K. MADHAVARAJU S/o K Gopal, No. 24, 10th Main, Puttenahalli, J P Nagar 7th Phase, Bangalore - 560078 & Guarantor Sri B ASHOK KUMAR S/o Bhoopal Naidu, No. 33, Sweet Home Layout, 1st Main, Mylasandra, Gollahalli, Kengeri - 560060** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.65,41,255.01/- (Rupees Sixty Five lakhs forty one thousand two hundred fifty five and paisa one Only)** and interest thereon within the 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said Rules on this **02.01.2024**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Union Bank of India, **Banashankari Branch (20182),** for an amount of **Rs.65,41,255.01/- (Rupees Sixty Five lakhs forty one thousand two hundred fifty five and paisa one Only)** and interest, cost thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY**

All that part and parcel of the All that part and parcel of industrial land at Plot No. 267/12, admeasuring 10770 Sq. Ft. in Survery No. 798, located at Road No. 3, Harohalli Industrial Area, 2nd Phase, Harohalli Village, Harohalli Hobli, Bengaluru - 562112, Harohalli Hobli and Kanakapura Taluk, property owned by K Madhavaraju bounded on East by: 18 meter wide Road No. 3, West by: Plot No. 267/13, North by: 18 meter wide Road No. 2 and South by: Plot No. 267/11.

As per section 13(13) of the act on receipt of this notice you are restrained / prevented from disposing of or dealing with the above securities without the consent of the bank.

Your attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**Date: 02.01.2024** **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
**Place: Bengaluru** **Union Bank of India**

**Government of Karnataka**
**Additional Chief Secretary to Government**
**Finance Department,**
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru
No.: FD 03 BMB 2023 Date: 04.01.2024

**KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT STOCK (SECURITIES)**

1. **Aggregate Amount : Total Rs. 7000 Crore [Rs. 3000 Crore (12 Year Tenure), Rs. 2000 Crore (13 Year Tenure) and Rs. 2000 Crore (14 Year Tenure)]**
2. **Method of Issue : By auction, through PDO, RBI, Mumbai (Fort)**
3. **Date of auction : January 09, 2024**

Government of Karnataka invites subscription to the above securities. Copies of the Notification and Application forms may be obtained from PDO, RBI, Bengaluru. Non-competitive bidding facility has been introduced by RBI to encourage participation of retail investors. The Government stock up to 10% of the notified amount of the sale will be allotted to eligible individuals and institutions. Sample Tender Forms and the revised scheme of Non-competitive bidding facility is available on the website **www.rbi.org.in**

**DIPR/DD-C.P/2871/KSMCA/2023-24**

**YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING**
INDULGE
*Every Friday with* THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

Right-wing activist Puneeth Kerehalli has filed a complaint with the Basavanagudi police, stating that fake WhatsApp messages were created using his phone number to create communal unrest

# HAPPINESS IS A PLACE TO VISIT

BALA CHAUHAN @Bengaluru

IN an era marked with stupendous success in space, technology and communication, the quest for well-being and happiness has taken a backseat. The pursuit of happiness is a fundamental part of being human and should be a universal endeavour. Unfortunately, the core construct is misunderstood, often deemed to be determined via other mundane, material pursuits and tangible achievements. For many, an inability to meet self or societally imposed expectations in achieving any one of them is perceived as failure of oneself.

The number of suicides among the youth is a deeply worrying phenomenon. Would they have held on and faced life's issues if they had self-worth and knew how important they were to themselves and their families, needs a separate space for honest introspection and deliberation.

To begin with, do we recognise the importance of well-being and being happy? Are we teaching our children the importance of being happy without external appendages and encourage them in various ways to look within themselves for this all-important positive emotion? Try a simple exercise. Ask people what is happiness and they will count and name people, things, occasions that make them happy. It is erroneous to source and seek happiness outside of ourselves and almost all of us get waylaid in the hunt for happiness.

"One should not aim as much for happiness in life as meaning and purpose in life," said noted counsellor and life coach, Dr Ali Khwaja. "Children can learn meaning and purpose experientially if we give them the right exposure, communication and tools to help manage their emotions. Happiness is transitory, whereas contentment, satisfaction and equilibrium are more permanent and can help them gain meaning in life," he added.

"Happiness is a strong positive emotion. It is an offshoot of well-being and mindfulness. It is intrinsic to holistic living. Wellbeing is often disconnected with extraneous material factors. It is a combination of feeling good and functioning well. The focus on well-being should start early in life and should be made part of school curriculum," said Professor, Psychiatry, National Institute of Mental Health & Sciences (NIMHANS), Dr Senthil Reddy.

"A sense of satisfaction, mental calm and self-equilibrium balances out various pressing issues. Wellbeing is an important marker of mental health and can help reduce adversities. One can develop a sense of well-being and happiness from being connected with nature, reaching out to others, exercising, being mindful, spiritual etc," he added.

According to the World Happiness Report, India is currently positioned at 126th place out of 146 countries with a happiness score of 4.036, classifying it as one of the world's least joyful nations. India's rank in the happiness index is lower than its neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, and China. Our north eastern neighbour -- the small, landlocked Kingdom of Bhutan -- has a centuries-long history of viewing happiness as a core responsibility of the government. The phrase 'gross national happiness' was first coined by the fourth King of Bhutan, King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, in the late 1970s when he stated, "Gross National Happiness is more important than Gross Domestic Product." The concept implies that "sustainable development should have a holistic approach towards notions of progress and give equal importance to non-economic aspects of well-being and happiness". The idea of Gross National Happiness (GNH) has long influenced Bhutan's development policy. Till recently, its tourism slogan was 'Happiness is a Place.'

The GNH framework includes nine constituent domains such as psychological well-being, health, time use and balance, education, cultural diversity and resilience, good governance, community vitality, ecological diversity and resilience, and living standard.

Happiness can be understood as a "dynamic state, which changes. It can be equated with contentment or with the feeling of pleasure", said Dr Ravindra Munoli, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry, KMC, Manipal.

"We should understand that other intense feelings like excitement, joy, bliss, ecstasy are not equal terms for happiness as such. Happiness is expressed or experienced or both. Happiness index looks at multiple domains like psychological well-being, health, time balance, community, social support, education, arts and culture, environment, governance, material well-being and work. As a society this can be understood as the feeling of contentment with what we have, what we are, with whom we are, what we expect, what we get, what we have access to," he added.

"Simplest skill to learn to remain content, and in turn be happy, is to "learn "acceptance," said Munoli. "Acceptance of people and their behaviour, events as they are. The discontent comes when we start judging anything and everything, when we start to expect everything to fit in our frame of acceptance, when we start to refuse to accept people, their behaviour, society, culture, outcomes. This simple tool of 'acceptance' will not only bring content among students and people, but also develops a positive attitude among them about life in particular and society in general," added the psychiatrist.

*(With inputs from Firoz Rozindar from Vijayapura, Prakash Samaga from Udupi, Ramchandra Gunari from Shivamogga, Divya Cutinho from Mangaluru and Tushar Majukar from Belagavi)*

## PRACTICE HAPPINESS

- Have a positive attitude
- Express gratitude
- Help others
- Nurture & enjoy relationships
- Live in the now moment
- Savour small pleasures
- Meditate
- Sleep well
- Connect with nature
- Make exercise a habit

**Happiness is the state of mind where the individual feels comfortable and joyful with his comforts and understands his limitations. Happiness index would certainly improve when (undue) expectation decreases and acceptance level increases among parents, family, society and above all in the individual**

Dr Harish Delantabettu, psychiatrist, Shivamogga

**During adolescence and early adulthood, peer pressure and parents' expectations have to be addressed. Awareness about accepting their friends and acceptance of the child by the peer group and parents make a huge difference. This would certainly shoot up the happiness index**

CK Anuradha, psychologist and student counsellor, JNN College of Engineering and Management

**Biologically, happiness hormones like Dopamine, Serotonin, Endorphins and Oxytocin play vital roles in regulating emotions and well-being. By maintaining equanimity and discernment, one can navigate through life without being swayed by the opinions of others**

Dr G Ananth Prabhu, cyber expert, Mangaluru

**Happiness is a state of mind. Someone is happy even with a single meal, while some are not happy with a full buffet. If the feeling of 'ME' is changed to 'WE', a lot can change. The more we learn to give and contribute in others' life or our society, we release serotonin which is the happy hormone**

Tejas Kolekar, personal coach, counsellor and educator, Belagavi

# HDK to join cabinet? Meet triggers speculation

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

Union Minister Arjun Munda greets JDS supremo and former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda at the latter's residence in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

UNION Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda met former prime minister HD Deve Gowda at the latter's residence here on Sunday, fuelling speculation that JDS state president HD Kumaraswamy could get a berth in the Narendra Modi cabinet.

The cabinet expansion is likely after the consecration of Ram temple at Ayodhya on January 22. Kumaraswamy could be offered the agriculture and farmer welfare portfolio which is vacant after Narendra Singh Tomar resigned to successfully contest the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election. Munda now handles the department as an additional charge, sources said.

This is to boost the morale of BJP's alliance partner JDS in the Lok Sabha elections that could help the two parties win more seats in Karnataka, the sources added.

"I am not worried about becoming a Union minister. Our aim is to defeat Congress and win all the 28 Lok Sabha seats in the state," Kumaraswamy told reporters after meeting Munda.

"What to do as a Union minister? I don't know. I have got this news from the media. I have no desire to become a Union minister and there was no such discussion during the meeting with Munda," he maintained.

"What if the election code of conduct comes into effect in February," he wondered.

On Gowda writing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on giving the Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the Kadugolla community, Munda told the JDS patriarch that the PMO has given him the task of holding talks with Gowda and the tribal welfare ministry.

This could help the BJP-JDS alliance as the community could back them in the Lok Sabha elections in parts of Karnataka, including Bengaluru Rural, Tumakuru and Chitradurga, where the community has considerable population, political analysts said.

Former Hiriyuru MLA Poornima Srinivas, who hails from the community, switched over to Congress from BJP recently.

Kumaraswamy said Munda also discussed the plight of farmers due to drought in the state and invited him to visit New Delhi January 15 and 16.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Tourism Minister HK Patil offer prayers at the Sai Baba Temple in Shiradi, Maharashtra, on Sunday | EXPRESS

## *BJP a threat to democracy: Siddu*

Bengaluru: Stating that the BJP's policies are threatening the foundations of democracy, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday said the responsibility of upholding the constitution rests with the Congress. He was speaking during centenary celebrations of freedom fighters Maharshi Bhausaheb Thorat and Annasaheb Shinde in Maharashtra on Sunday. "If power is given to the BJP, which is an anti-democratic party, the country will be in danger. It is the Congress that fought against the British to get freedom. If the Narendra Modi government is elected again, it will defeat the purpose the constitution and it is the duty of Congress to protect it," he said. **ENS**

# Ravi, HDK brainstorm LS strategy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FORMER BJP national general secretary CT Ravi called on JDS state chief HD Kumaraswamy at the latter's farmhouse in Bidadi on Sunday, and discussed how the BJP-JDS will work as a combine in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

Kumaraswamy said all BJP-JDS leaders will sit down and discuss seat sharing amicably. "I have not decided to contest the LS polls. But well-wishers want me to contest from Chikkaballapur, Tumakuru, Mandya and Bengaluru Rural seats. Let's see how things pan out," he said.

Their meeting was important as Ravi plans to contest from Bengaluru North Lok Sabha seat — a Vokkaliga bastion, which is likely to be vacated by former Union minister DV Sadananda Gowda.

Ravi and Kumaraswamy, both Vokkaligas, have been on good terms for several decades. In fact, Kumaraswamy had helped Ravi, a former Chikkamagaluru MLA, in the past and their meeting is not a surprise, but a continuation of their relationship, a JDS leader said.

Kumaraswamy said that if needed, he will meet Mandya independent MP Sumalatha Ambareesh. He met her supporter Sachidananda and discussed the ground reality in the Mandya Lok Sabha seat. His son, Nikhil, had lost to Sumalatha in the 2019 LS polls. "If there is a need, I will also meet Sumalatha. What's wrong in this? If Sumalatha continues with BJP, I will meet her on behalf of our ally," he said.

### 'CM, DCM trying to finish off JDS'

Kumaraswamy on Sunday said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DCM DK Shivakumar intend to finish off JDS. "The two leaders' agenda is to put an end to JDS as they are knocking on the doors of JDS MLAs. When our MLAs go to their constituencies, they are being asked to leave the party and join Congress. They are also offering monetary benefits," he alleged.

He said Siddaramaiah has no gratitude and has been trying to finish off the party that helped him grow as a leader.

PREP STARTS

# AICC appoints coordinators for LS polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE All Indian Congress Committee has appointed coordinators for the upcoming the Lok Sabha elections.

HK Patil (Chikkodi), Satish Jarkiholi (Belagavi), RB Thimmapur (Bagalkote), MB Patil (Vijayapura-SC), Priyanka Kharge (Kalaburagi-SC), N S Boseraju (Raichur-ST), Eshwar Khandre (Bidar), Shivaraj Thangadagi (Koppal), B Nagendra (Ballari-ST), Shivananda Patil (Haveri), Santosh Lad (Dharwad), Makala Vaidya (Uttara Kannada), SS Mallikarjun (Davanagere), Madhu Bangarappa (Shivamogga), KJ George (Udupi-Chikkamagaluru), KN Rajanna (Hassan), Dinesh Dinesh Gundurao (Dakshina Kannada), D Sudhakar (Chitradurga-SC), G Parameshwara (Tumakuru), N Cheluvarayaswamy (Mandya), K Venkatesh (Mysuru), HC Mahadevappa (Chamarajanagara- SC), BS Suresh (Bengaluru Rural), Krishna Byregowda (Bengaluru North), BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan (Bengaluru Central), Ramalinga Reddy (Bengaluru South), KH Muniyappa (Chikkaballapur) and MC Sudhakar (Kolar-SC) have been appointed as constituency-wise coordinators.

# 3 DCM call nothing but fear of losing: Ashoka

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

LEADER of Opposition in the Assembly, R Ashoka, on Sunday said that as per a few internal surveys, the Congress will win only three to four seats, while the BJP is expected to win more than 25 seats in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. These survey reports have created panic among the Congress leaders who are sensing a threat to the stability of their state government after the LS polls.

"They are talking about three deputy chief ministers (DCMs). Minister Priyank Kharge is also demanding a DCM post. Minister G Parameshwara is talking about a Dalit CM. This are nothing but fear of losing," he said.

Speaking to reporters in Mangaluru during his visit to the BJP office, Ashoka alleged that the Congress government in the state is targeting Hindus by reopening old cases against karsevaks. "But the BJP will not bow down to such pressure tactics. During the Emergency also, our workers were sent to jail and they faced the situation without fear," he said.

Responding to Congress leader B K Hariprasad's statement, Ashoka said, "Hariprasad, who is a senior Congress leader, has no common sense. He has given a statement that a Godhra-like incident might occur around the time of Ram Temple inauguration. If he has documents, let him produce it before the police. If not, he should be subjected to questioning."

He said, "Congress does not support the inauguration of the Ram Temple. Chief minister Siddaramaiah had made an open statement that he would not give donations to the Ram Temple. His son Yathindra and Hariprasad are making irresponsible statements."

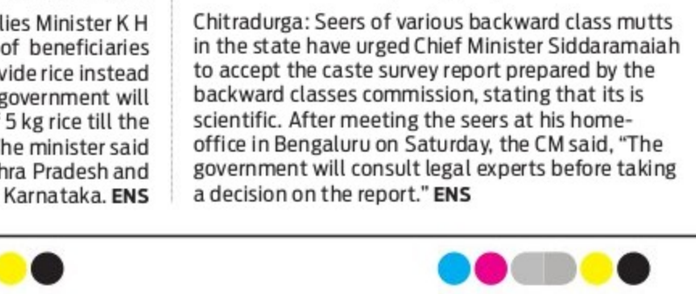


### Bommai: Undeclared emergency in K'taka

Hubballi : Senior BJP leader and former chief minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday said that there exists a state of undeclared emergency in Karnataka and the ruling Congress government has created a sense of fear among people. Bommai said the leaders of the ruling party in the state are intoxicated with power. "This government is oppressing people. The language of the CM and his ministers is affecting freedom of speech of individuals," he said.

# Banner near Vijayapura temple seeks ban on Muslims traders during jatra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Vijayapura



A banner put up by Hindu outfits outside the Siddeshwara temple in Vijayapura city

A BANNER put up by pro-Hindu outfits near Siddeshwara temple in Vijayapura city, prohibiting Muslim traders from conducting business during the coming Siddeshwara Jatra, has turned into a controversy.

Recently, Sri Ram Sene members had demanded the temple committee not to allow Muslim traders from doing business during the Jatra.

The banner reads, "Muslims do not believe in the law of the land. They are killers of holy cow. They are involved in religious conversions in the name of jihad and they have been insulting Indian culture. Such people will not be allowed to do any business during Siddehswara Jatra."

It is said that Sene members argued when temple committee members tried to remove the banner.

Sene local president Neelakanth Kandagal said they are firm on their demand. He said the banner has been put up by a federation of Hindu outfits. "The temple belongs to all Hindus and not just the committee. It should meet our demand," he added.

Criticising BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, who is the president of the temple committee, for not taking any decision on their demand, Kandagal said, "On one hand, he calls himself a Hindu icon and fights for Hindu cause. On the other hand, he is taking no decision on our demand. It shows Yatnal is maintaining a dual stand."

If the committee fails to meet their demand, Sene members will launch an agitation against the committee led by their state president Pramod Mutalik.

He said that after the committee tried to remove the banner, Sene has put it back again.

EXPRESS READ

### People want rice instead of money, govt in talks with states: Muniyappa

Kolar: Food and Civil Supplies Minister K H Muniyappa on Sunday said 70-80% of beneficiaries want the state government to provide rice instead of money. He, however, said the government will continue to pay money in lieu of 5 kg rice till the state procures more of the grain. The minister said he has approached Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and other states to sell rice to Karnataka. **ENS**

### Govt will consult legal experts on caste census report, says Siddu

Chitradurga: Seers of various backward class mutts in the state have urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to accept the caste survey report prepared by the backward classes commission, stating that its is scientific. After meeting the seers at his home-office in Bengaluru on Saturday, the CM said, "The government will consult legal experts before taking a decision on the report." **ENS**

A male leopard, which is suspected to have killed two people in Nilgiris district in the last 15 days, was tranquilised and captured by forest department personnel on Sunday

IN KARNATAKA...

## 2.75 tmcft to be released to Upper Krishna for chilli crops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday said 2.75 tmcft of water will be released from Almatti and Narayanpura reservoirs to save the chilli crop in Upper Krishna basin. "Water will be released immediately and will reach the basin in two or three days," Shivakumar, also the water resources minister, told reporters. He held a meeting of district in-charge ministers of Kalaburagi, Raichur, Bagalkot and Yadgiri, MLAs of all parties and farmer leaders late on Saturday evening. If the chilli crop is destroyed, the estimated loss will be around Rs 2,000 crore, he said.

"To protect our farmers, last night we decided to release 2.75 tmcft of water for the last time. Protesting farmers and legislators should ensure that the water is used only for chilli crops," he said. Almatti and Narayanpur dams together have stored 47 tmcft of water. While 37 tmcft is needed for drinking water purposes, and 3 tmcft for other purposes, 1.5 tmcft is lost during outflow, he said.

Asked how he will monitor the use of water, he said, "The police cannot be deployed to monitor water usage. I have given this responsibility to the people's representatives and farmer organisations. You have to be the police and make good use of this water. We have also instructed our officials, but they cannot fight with farmers. The media should also create awareness about the responsibilities of farmers," Shivakumar said.

**RIVER LINKING: 31 MPs TO VISIT KARNATAKA**

On the river-linking proposal, Shivakumar said a team of 31 parliamentarians will visit the state to inspect the Cauvery catchment area. "River linking is a large central government project and we should not deviate from the issue we are facing now. Our irrigation problems will also be discussed with the team," he said. Sources said the team is likely to visit the state in a couple of days and hold deliberations with water resources department officials.

# TN SIGNS MoUs WORTH ₹62K CR ON FIRST DAY OF GIM

Other states should emulate Tamil Nadu to propel nation's economic growth, says Piyush Goyal

C SHIVAKUMAR & T MURUGANANDHAM @Chennai

TAMIL NADU secured investments worth around ₹62,000 crore as several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) were signed on the first day of the two-day Global Investors Meet (GIM) inaugurated by Chief Minister M K Stalin in Chennai on Sunday. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal took part in the event.

Stalin, who released semiconductor and advanced electronics policy on the occasion, said GIM would act as a catalyst for economic and industrial growth. "With the aim that Tamil Nadu should play an important role in shaping India's economic growth, I have set an ambitious target of transforming TN's economy into a $1-trillion economy by 2030. To achieve this, we are pursuing a twin-pronged approach of attracting both capital and employment intensive investments," Stalin, clad in a black colour suit, said. "We have rolled out the red carpet for investors. We want to be the trendsetter among states. GIM has witnessed encouraging response and is expected to bring pride and investment to the state. Multiple policies have been announced. Our focus is to ensure development for all," he said. The CM also released $1 trillion report and the first copy was received by Goyal.

Goyal hailed the state's growth story, especially the fact that 43% of India's total women workforce is in Tamil Nadu, and said other states should emulate Tamil Nadu to propel the nation's economic growth.

TVS Group chief Venu Srinivasan greets TN CM MK Stalin at the GIM on Sunday. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal looks on | ASHWIN PRASATH

Police arrest the youth allegedly involved in the moral policing incident in Belagavi on Sunday

## Moral policing: Victims locked up in shed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE victims had gone to Belagavi to file an online application for benefits under the Yuva Nidhi scheme at a cyber centre. When the computer operator told them that there was a server problem and it would take some time to restart, they went to the Fort Lake premises. Seeing them sitting together, the accused sought to know why Muskan was sitting with the boy from another community.

When the victims said that they are cousins, the accused did not listen and dragged them to the shed nearby. Despite the victims' pleas to let them go, the accused assaulted them with rods and sticks. The boy managed to make a phone call to his parents. His parents rushed to the Fort Lake premises immediately along with some relatives. Hearing their screams for help, the boy's parents and relatives rushed to the shed and rescued them. The victims were taken to BIMS for treatment.

DCP (Law and Order) Rohan Jagadish said the police have taken this case seriously. Already nine people have been arrested and efforts are on to nab the other accused.

# YSRC MLC's brother stoned to death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kurnool

A 57-year-old mentally-ill man was stoned to death when he was asleep on a footpath at RS Pendekal village under Tuggali police station limits in Kurnool district late on Saturday.

The deceased was identified as Pujari Ramudu alias Bheemanna, a native of RS Pendekal, and brother of YSRC MLC Pothula Sunitha.

Ramudu's body was found with injuries on his head at the Railway Junction around 11.00 pm of Saturday.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Ramudu's younger brother Pujari Lenin alias Sreenu said the 57-year-old was unmarried and a key activist in the Communist Party of India (Marxist–Leninist) People's War, commonly known as People's War Group, around 30 years ago. He had also served as the president of Radical Students' Union (RSU) in 1984-85. Later, Ramudu joined a group of naxals and was appointed as a Bhuvanasi Dalam commander.

Lenin added that Ramudu had surrendered before the police in 1991 as he was unhappy with the operations of the group. "He laid down his arms before the then district SP Mahendar Reddy," Lenin recalled.

"Later, Ramudu became mentally ill and remained aloof over the past few years. He preferred to be alone and not communicate at all," his brother said.

Lenin maintained that Ramudu did not have any enemies.

While the cause of the murder remains a mystery, Tuggali police station sub-inspector Mallikarjuna clarified there it was not a case of political revenge. He suspected that beggars or another mentally ill person might have killed Ramudu.

A case was registered and investigation is underway.

## Hubballi's ADIGAS Yatra completes 3 decades of service

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hubballi

THE most trusted brand in domestic and international tours, 'ADIGAS Yatra' successfully completed its 29 years and has a glory of three decades service in the tourism industry. Recently, the company released its 30 years' brochure that has a new vision and lots of new programmes with pocket-friendly, go-easy tour packages which in other words make your tour a memorable one.

ADIGAS Yatra commenced in 1994 in Hubballi and K Nagaraj Adiga, the founder and CEO of ADIGAS Group, worked hard to reach such heights in the 30-year period and became the first choice of travellers. "We in ADIGAS take care of all your requirements along with funds. There are a handful of good schemes which make your trip a memorable one. Collaboration with TATA AIG, we ADIGAS, offer free of cost insurance to those who are below 80 years of age. Tourists can opt for any tour package published in our brochure and website," it added. To avail offers and information kindly contact/visit our website/ph: Hubballi: 0836-2256678 / 9448083008 or www.adigasyatra.com or e-mail: care@adigasyatra.com

EXPRESS READ

### Chennai-B'luru DD Express gets five 2nd Class coaches

Chennai: The Chennai-Bengaluru double-decker express will get five second-class sitting reserved coaches from February 15 onwards. With this, the number of AC double-decker chair car coaches will be reduced from 10 to eight. Similarly, the Coimbatore-Bengaluru UDAY, which currently operates with seven AC double-decker chair car coaches, will also run with eight AC chair car and five second-class reserved coaches.

# HORTICULTURE OUTPUT SURGED 14 TIMES SINCE 1950, SAYS MUNDA

Visitors at a stall during the valedictory of Millet and Organic 2024 International Trade Fair at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN India, horticulture output has surged 14 times — from 25 million tonnes in 1950-51 to 350 million tonnes by 2022-23, surpassing food grain production. This is attributed to the adoption of new technologies and crop varieties, Arjun Munda, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare said at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (IIHR), said in Hesaraghatta on Sunday.

This growth is imperative to meet the rising demands for high-quality and safe food products. Addressing challenges such as climate change, invasive pests and diseases, pesticide residues, and soil and water pollution, along with minimising post-harvest losses, should be the focus of research in a sustainable manner, the minister said during the event where he inaugurated farmer facilitation centres and interacted with dragon fruit farmers.

Munda urged farmers to adopt best practices, meet international standards, and emphasised the importance of storage, food processing, and marketing.

Advocating against importing practices, he said that by 2027, India will stop the import of tur dal to secure a stable market for farmers. Munda also mentioned about the online portal launched by the Union Government where farmers can sell pulses at fixed rates as this will provide farmers with a sustainable alternative.

President of Karnataka State Exotic Fruits Association Babu Sita Ram said that the government should increase import duty on dragon fruit as during June and July a substantial amount of dragon fruit comes from Vietnam which affects local farmers.

Additionally, he emphasised the need to raise awareness about the benefits of dragon fruit and further suggested the establishment of cold storage facilities by the government as dragon fruit typically takes 20 days to reach consumers.

## Centre giving boost to organic farming: Min

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

"IN many states there is a shortage of water for agriculture. By using chemicals, the soil is losing its essence. Organic farming and growing millets can be a solution to these problems and it should become profitable to the farmers," Arjun Munda, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, has said.

He was speaking at the valedictory program of Millet and Organic 2024 International Trade Fair here at Palace Grounds here on Sunday. Munda said that the Union Government is encouraging organic farming. He lauded the effort of the Karnataka government in spreading awareness about millet farming and value addition through the millet mela. Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy said that contracts worth over Rs 5 crore were signed in the mela and marketers from Australia, Europe, Kenya, Kuwait, and UAE took part in the fair.

> **In many states there is a shortage of water for agriculture. By using chemicals, the soil is losing its essence. Organic farming and growing millets can be a solution to these problems and it should become profitable to the farmers**
>
> Arjun Munda, Union Minister

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: SEE/TR(M)/RMGC/AEE(C)/2023-24/3729-35 Date: 05.01.2024
**BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY)**
KPTCL invites bids from eligible bidders through KPP Portal to execute 17 No's of civil works under the jurisdiction of the Superintending Engineer (Ele.), Transmission (Maint), Ramanagara Circle, KPTCL, Bengaluru.
The detailed tender notification regarding details of work, general conditions of contract, NIT, Instructions to Tenderers (ITT), EMD, SD, etc., can be obtained by website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on 'hyperlink e procurement KPTCL' **on or after 10.01.2024.** Any other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
**Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.), Transmission (M),**
RMGC, KPTCL, Opp R.R. Nagar Metro Station, Pantharapalya, Mysuru Road, Bengaluru - 560039 Ph: 080-29620155

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGCO25521)
No.952/Gadag/EE(E)/V.No/2023-24/6165 Dated: 05.01.2024
**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
KPTCL invites following Office tenders pertaining to Transmission Lines and Sub-Stations Division, Gadag:
1) **Supplying of 96KV Lightning Arrestor at 110KV S/s Laxmeshwar**
2) **Supply of LED Lights of 150W yard lights at 400KV S/s Doni**
3) **Overhauling of 110KV Class ABB Make breaker at 110KV S/s Konnur**
4) **Air Leakage of Arresting 110KV Dambal line-2 breakers at 110KV S/s Mundargi**
5) **Overhauling of 110 KV Circuit Breaker at 110KV S/s Laxmeshwar**
6) **Supply of Numerical Relay (03 OCR+1 EFR) non Directional at 110KV S/s Laxmeshwar**
Enquiry Details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned from **08-01-2024 at 10:00 Hrs. onwards. Due date: 23-01-2024 upto 04:00 pm**.
**Sd/-, Executive Engineer (Ele),**
TL & SS Division, KPTCL, Bapuji Nagara, Gadag-582103

**MYSORE PAINTS & VARNISH LTD.,**
**(A Govt., of Karnataka Undertaking)**
**New Bannimantap Extension,**
**MYSURU-570 015, Karnataka.**
**Phone: 0821-2493831/ 2497469/ 2499340,**
**website: www.mysorepaints.karnataka.gov.in**
**email: materials-mpvl@karnataka.gov.in**
**Short term tender Notification Date: 06.01.2024**
Short term tenders are invited from reputed manufacturers / authorized dealers for supply of the following materials through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in). The details are as mentioned below:
SL. No. : **01.** Short term tender notification Number: **MPVL/2023-24/IND0007.** Tender Description: **Supply of Raw Materials required for production of 2K PU Paints & Synthetic Enamel Paints.** Tender Category: Supply of Goods. Last Date & Time for submission of Tender / Bids: **16.01.2024.** Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening: **18.01.2024.**
Interested parties may visit www.mysorepaints.karnataka.gov.in for details and can contact the undersigned for any further clarifications/ information and request to participate in the tender.
**For Mysore Paints and Varnish Ltd.,**
**Sd/-Materials Manager/(TIA)**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**VIJAYANAGAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, BALLARI.**
Cantonment Area, Director:8147796529, PA: 8147796539,
e-mail : vimsballaridirector@karnataka.gov.in ,
e-mail :directorvimsballari@gmail.com
website: www.vims.karnataka.gov.in
NO. VIMS/SUP/TEND/DE/06/2023-24 DATE: - 05.01.2024
**RE e-TENDER NOTIFICATION**
Tenders are invited from the eligible bidders for Supply of Medical equipments & instruments under DMFT Fund togovernment dental college & rearch institute, VIMS, Ballari under Two bid system through e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** of Government of Karnataka as per the KTPP Act-1999-2000. The interested bidders are request to submit Tender in above said e-portal on or before **20.01.2024 up to 5.00 PM**. The total approximate cost of tender is **Rs.142.76.00 Lakhs**. Further details may be obtained in the above said website and **www.vims.karnataka.gov.in**
**Sd/- Director, VIMS, Ballari**
**DIPR/Ballari/685/KSMCA/2023-24**

**Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.**
**(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)**
Corporate Office: Ground Floor, BMTC-TTMC Bus Stand, Yeshwanthpur Circle, Bengaluru-560 022. Ph.: 080-43344334
Fax: 080-43344376 Website: **www.kstdc.co**
No: KSTDC/04/TPT/2022-23/Vol-1/2359 Date: 05.01.2024
**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation Limited, Bengaluru invites Re-tender from interested bidders.
**Tender No.:** KSTDC/2023-24/SE0004/Call-3. **Description :** Fabrication of 02 Nos. AC Deluxe bus body building on Ashok Leyland Chassis. EMD: **Rs. 1,50,000/-.** Last date & time for bid submission: **07.02.2024 at 16.00 hrs.**
The detailed tender documens are available in the website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For any furhter clarifications contact +91 80 23010900, +91 80 23010901, e-Mail support: **hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com**
**Sd/-General Manager (Admin)/Tender Inviting Authority, KSTDC**

**Department of Women and Child Development and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens**
**Office of the Secretary to Government, 1st Floor, M.S.Building, Bengaluru-560001.**
**Tender Notification No.: DWCD/2023-24/IND0022 Date: 06/01/2024**
**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Karnataka Public Procurement mode only, Two cover System)**
**TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF EGG FOR THE YEAR 2023-24**
Department of Women and Child Development hereby invites technical and financial tenders (Two cover System) from officially registered and eligible suppliers for the supply of Egg for **Belagavi Divisions,** Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) of CDPO offices in the State of Karnataka. Interested bidders shall submit the bids through Government of Karnataka's Karnataka Public Procurement portal **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Tenderer shall deposit the EMD in accordance with the tender document.
**1.** Tender document available for download: Date: **06.01.2024 and onwards. 2.** Pre-bid meeting Date: **19.01.2024 at 11.00 a.m. 3.** Last date and Time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal Date: **25.01.2024 up to 5.00 p.m 4.** Last date for receipt of Tender Date: **06.02.2024 upto 5.00 p.m. 5.** Opening of Technical bid Date: **09.02.2024 by 11.00 a.m. 6.** Tentatively fixed date for opening of financial bid after verification of documents submitted in technical bid Date: **22.02.2024 by 11.00 a.m.**
Copies of tender announcement and tender documents are available from (a) Tender inviting authority-Director, Department of Women and Child Development, Bengaluru (b) State Tender Bulletin Officer-Deputy Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bengaluru. Further details may be obtained from the office of the Joint Director (ICDS), Department of Women and Child Development, Anandrao circle, Bangalore (Tel No: 080-22353780).
**Sd/-**
**Deputy Secretary to Government and State Tender Bulletin Officer**
DiPR/CP/2920/SPAN/2023-24

# EDITORIAL

To make peace, one must be an uncompromising leader. To make peace, one must also embody compromise

Benazir Bhutto

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

## BRUTAL ATTACK ON ED OFFICERS BAD OPTICS FOR THE TRINAMOOL

IMAGES of bleeding Enforcement Directorate officials after they were attacked by Trinamool Congress goons in West Bengal reinforced the impression that might alone is right in parts of the state. That the local police station booked a suo motu FIR against the raiding ED party showed how compromised the law and order machinery has become. The charges the sycophants invoked included molestation, forcible entry and theft. The officers and their CRPF security personnel had reached the house of Shahjahan Sheikh at Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas to arrest him in connection with a multi-crore ration scam, but he refused to open the door. Instead, hundreds of musclemen converged at his house in no time, attacked the officers and snatched their personal belongings like mobile phones and wallets. Three ED officers sustained grievous injuries and were hospitalised. That the ED serves as a force multiplier for the Centre is well known. But its partisanship has to be dealt with politically and not with bricks and sticks on the streets. Assaulting officials for merely doing their job is not done. They were just following orders; their decision makers sit elsewhere. It's like Israel blaming Gazans for acting as civilian cover to terror outfits like the Hamas - as if they had an option to opt out.

Instead of condemning the attack, the Trinamool shamelessly accused the ED for the raid without informing the local police station. The party ought to realise that it could become as unpopular as its predecessor Left Front government if the lawlessness continues unabated. It's the TINA (there is no alternative) factor that is working for it but Mamata's party can't bank on it forever. The only acceptable action is to book the goons and let the law take its course impartially.

One of the kingpins of the scam is said to be former food and civil supplies minister Jyotipriya Mallick. He was arrested on October 27, 2023. Sheikh is a Mallick loyalist, hence the ED knock on his door. The scam involved providing about 400 gm less per kg of PDS grains to all beneficiaries. The collective loot was shared with ration shop owners and the political class. A huge chunk of the money - ₹2,000 crore by ED estimates - got transferred out of country. People rose in revolt against the swindle during the pandemic, which was how the scam surfaced. Short-changing the poor must have consequences.

## REIN IN LOOSE-TONGUED KERALA MINISTER

Kerala's culture minister Saji Cherian landed himself in the eye of a storm recently when he made derogatory remarks against church leaders from the state for attending the Prime Minister's Christmas luncheon in Delhi. He said certain bishops get "goosebumps" when they get an invitation from the BJP and those who attended the event conveniently forgot about the Manipur violence when "served with cake and wine".

While his contention that the priests could have raised the Manipur issue with the PM is somewhat valid, his language was certainly insulting in nature. The comments drew an immediate reaction from the church, with the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council warning of non-cooperation with the state government. With his party, the CPM, too distancing itself from Cherian's comments, the minister had no option but to swallow his own words. He said he was withdrawing three words – cake, wine, and goosebumps – from his remarks.

But, by then, it was probably too late. At a time when the BJP is cozying up to the Christian community in Kerala in a desperate attempt to achieve an electoral breakthrough, Cherian's reckless comments surely have the potential to cause considerable damage to his party. In fact, it's not the first time that Cherian has embarrassed the CPM and the government through loose talk. And, once he paid the price too. In July 2022, he drew flak for saying the Indian Constitution was written to rob people, and that it condones exploitation and helps plunder people. He was forced to step down after a case was registered under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. He returned to the cabinet six months later after a police probe exonerated him. Later in August 2023, he courted a controversy for saying he was surprised to learn during a visit to Saudi Arabia that there was no prayer call from mosques and how it is considered a public nuisance there if the call is heard outside. He had to correct himself saying he was only underlining the religious harmony in Saudi Arabia.

Politicians must watch the words coming out of their mouth, because the world is watching. Any inappropriate word or a misdirected phrase can have serious political implications. If the minister can't control his words, at least he should know when to shut his mouth. The CPM and the ruling front should rein in Saji Cherian and cannot afford to let him be a constant source of embarrassment.

QUICK TAKE

### AVOID DEMOLITIONS IN DEEP WINTER

THE Delhi government has recently demolished hundreds of houses illegally constructed on the edges of two of the city's oldest villages, Nizamuddin and Khirkee. This comes at a time the national capital is in the grip of a cold wave, with minimum temperatures plunging close to zero. The demolitions have affected hundreds of poor families, some of whom claim to have been living there for decades. The law may be blind, but those who implement it are not. The government should have waited for the weather to turn and avoided subjecting so many families from shuddering without a roof. Kindness in governance is a virtue, not weakness.

Given that the BJP seems all set for a hat-trick, what should the grand old party do to revive its fortunes and regain the trust of the voters?

## IT'S TIME FOR CONGRESS TO BUCK UP

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE
Professor of English, Jawaharlal Nehru University

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

LET me make myself perfectly clear. Unlike many ruling party supporters, I do not wish the demise of the Congress. Rather, it would be good for the nation if it undergoes a major if not complete makeover and rejig. So that, adjusting to the times, the Congress starts taking itself seriously as India's principal if not only nationwide opposition party.

Yes, after ruling the country practically unchallenged for over 50 years, such a reboot might be difficult. Akin to going through rehab. But drastic measures are needed if the party is to survive.

The truth is that other than the BJP, the Congress is the only national party in India. That is why, its persistence—if not that of the Gandhi family at its helm—is good for Indian democracy. An effective and principled opposition is a much-needed check and balance to single party rule in any functional democracy but especially in a parliamentary one.

But therein lies the rub. Neither Rahul Gandhi nor the Congress come across as part of an effective and principled opposition in the country. In fact, oftentimes, they do not even behave as if they are in the opposition. They still display the massive hangover and mannerisms, if not arrogance and conceit, of the ruling party. No wonder they appear confused, if not clueless, about their identity and central messaging. Given that the Modi-led ruling BJP is all set for a hat-trick, what should the Congress do to revive its fortunes and regain the trust of voters?

First of all, should the Congress oblige the BJP by giving up, rolling over, and dying? Either swiftly or slowly, by *jhatka* or *halal*? Thus, facilitating the way for the BJP's much trumpeted objective of a "Congress-mukt Bharat" or Congress-free India? Certainly not. The party's sporadic though not spectacular electoral victories in Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, and, more recently, Telangana demonstrate that the Congress is not about to give up its ghost so easily.

As, indeed, does Rahul Gandhi's brave, if inept, persistence. His Bharat Jodo Yatra, which even if not stunningly successful, was certainly not an utter failure. Now, he has signalled his doggedness by embarking on another, this time East to West, Bharat Nyay Yatra, which has just been rechristened as Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra or Unite India Justice Rally. Therefore, neither is the Congress giving up, nor is its ruling family. But the hold of the latter on the former must make the BJP happy. They have publicly declared that Rahul Gandhi is their star campaigner.

The Congress, though not about to self-combust instantly, still shows a painful and prolonged death wish in its own repeated self-goals and egregious mistakes. Its decline is partly its own doing. Dynastic politics, corruption, minority appeasement, pseudo-secularism, identity politics, populism, economic mismanagement, lack of new ideas, decline of idealism, and so on, have all contributed to its undoing. Many of its past victories have, in fact, been because of the failures of its opponents.

SOUMYADIP SINHA

Now the shoe is on the other foot. The Congress's downfall is a direct consequence of a better and more politically proficient opponent. The crucial factor that has contributed to its decline is the rise of the BJP and its charismatic leader Narendra Modi.

The BJP has emerged as the dominant party in Indian politics, winning consecutive national and state elections with a strong mandate. The BJP has also expanded its base across regions, castes and communities, posing a serious threat to the Congress's traditional support base. The BJP has successfully projected itself as a party of development, governance and nationalism, while portraying the Congress as a party of corruption, dynasticism, and appeasement.

The Congress, so far, has been unable to come up with a comprehensive strategy to counter such an attack. The charge of being anti-Hindu, even anti-national, seems to have stuck. In addition, from being India's traditional mainstream and centrist party, its decisive tilt towards the Left has also alienated it from the rising Indian middle classes and the aspiring youth. But its biggest inadequacy is that the Congress has failed to articulate a coherent alternative to the BJP or to Narendra Modi's leadership.

To begin with, the Congress must not resort to negative campaigning and personal attacks. Endlessly criticising the ruling party or the prime minister have not worked. Trying to convey that both Modi and BJP are politically illegitimate and untouchable should be replaced by acknowledging the real accomplishments of the government. The Congress must offer constructive criticism like a good opposition party. Speak the truth to the public to regain their trust.

The Congress should try to return to the centre of the political spectrum from its 'woke' and leftward tilt. Try to reclaim the middle ground and the mainstream space that it traditionally occupied. Remove the anti-Hindu and anti-national tags, not merely by slogans but by actions. Reclaim past heroes and icons, now appropriated by the BJP. These include Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Subhas Chandra Bose, BR Ambedkar.

Reorganise the party, at the national, state, and local levels. Welcome and recognise talent. Institute comprehensive reform and intra-party democracy at all levels, in addition to transparency and good governance. Try to institutionalise a grievance-redressal and dissent-management system so that defections and dissensions are reduced. Make Congress attractive once more to the young, aspiring, and talented from all communities, regions, castes, and linguistic groups.

Strengthen booth-level voter management. Concentrate on winnable seats, especially where the BJP's margin of victory has been small. Field good candidates, not necessarily rich, powerful, or corrupt ones. Try to offer alternatives at the micro level to the BJP even if there is no national narrative. Above all, demonstrate commitment to clean, corruption-free, and responsible government in the states where Congress has been voted to power.

The Congress can still boast of hosting a slew of smart people, not only popular and experienced leaders at the local, regional, and national levels, but also competent and dedicated managers, strategists, legal luminaries, and other professionals. It has the resources, but must now display the resolve, to clean up its act, to rethink, reorganise, reinvent, and rejuvenate itself.

Rather than being in a state of drift or indecision, this is the time for some serious introspection and reconstruction at all levels of the Congress. This process may take months if not years, but the impending crisis in the 2024 general elections might serve as the necessary trigger.

*(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)*

## HOW A THAI FOLK TALE STANDS THE TEST OF TIME

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

TO divert ourselves with an Indic story that has an unusual moral point, let me retell a Thai favourite. It is found in the Suthon Jataka that comes from a bigger collection called the *Pannasa Jataka*. Its heroine, Manohra (meaning 'heart-conqueror' in Sanskrit) was a *kinnari* or demi-god princess. She looked exquisitely human in form but owned light, detachable wings with which she and her similarly-equipped *kinnari* friends flew about their celestial home.

Manohra, like all celestial maidens, was irresistibly drawn to the beautiful lakes and lotus ponds of earth. Their clear, cool waters were a physical joy that no celestial being could resist.

One sun-dappled morning, Manohra longed for a refreshing dip and flew off to earth alone. But when she stepped out humming from a pond and put on her wings again, a rug of tiger skin was suddenly thrown over her, a rope quickly tied around it, and she felt herself seized and borne off at great speed through the air.

On and on they flew, and after a long time, descended to earth. Manohra heard a muffled exchange of talk before she was unwrapped. She found herself standing on the terrace of a great palace. A lithe, handsome young man looked at her in wonder and so did an older man and woman, all evidently noble. Manohra was not the kind to weep and wail nor beg for mercy. Instead she cast one scornful look at her burly kidnapper, who wore the ochre robes of a hermit, and saluted the nobles with a mannerly namaste. "I'm sure you'll tell me what this is about, good people," she said in her low, musical voice.

The older man and woman exchanged a fleeting glance and the man stepped forward with a charming, rueful smile. "Welcome to my kingdom, Princess Manohra. I am King Adityavan and this is Queen Shanta Devi. This young man is our son, Prince Suthon. We asked our friend, the honourable hermit here, to seek and find an ideal bride for our son and he chose you, taking you away the moment he had the opportunity, which, as you know, is permitted as a bride-seeking practice. He observed you secretly for many days before that and praises you highly. We trust his opinion. Will you not honour my son with your hand in marriage, now that you have been brought to us?"

The queen smiled welcomingly and looked faintly anxious. The young man stared dumbstruck at Manohra and had to be gently touched on the shoulder by his mother to recollect himself. Manohra was a realist. She thought sorrowfully of her parents and their grief when they found her missing but knew that she was incapable just then of finding her way home. She surveyed the prince through her eyelashes. 'Suthon' meant 'good arrow' and he looked properly princely and warrior-like. She inclined her head.

Manohra and Suthon were married that very day and many months of perfect happiness followed, although not everyone was pleased by it. The old court-counsellor brooded darkly on the slight to his own daughter, whom he had indirectly advocated for months as the ideal bride for the prince, contriving to put her in the prince's way through many galas and picnics. That, in fact, was why he had not succeeded. The prince had had suitable girls thrown at his head like cabbages and cauliflowers since he was barely in his teens. But the old court-counsellor lacked a clinical eye in the matter and only saw his ambition frustrated. "We'll see, my fine lady," he muttered as he smiled and bowed to the wedded pair.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

In a popular Thai Jataka tale, Prince Suthon marries a *kinnari* named Manohra. One day when the prince is away, a counsellor misinterprets the king's dream, which results in Manohra being sent away. But the prince travels to perilous lands and undergoes a hard test to bring back his love

One day, news arrived of a band of marauders attacking the border and Prince Suthon had to go to deal with it. He told his best friend, a junior minister at court, to keep a watchful eye on Manohra and promised to make him court-counsellor when he returned. But the old court-counsellor, who had the knack of eavesdropping, overheard him and began to plot doom. His chance arrived when King Adityavan, worrying about his son, had a bad dream one night and wanted it explained the next morning in court. The old counsellor pretended to hem and haw and told him with feigned reluctance that it portended terrible things for the country because of the stranger in their midst. However, sacrificing the bird-woman would avert all that. A fearful whisper promptly rustled through the court.

The king shot the counsellor a sharp look and said he would consider it. Back in the royal chambers, the king consulted the queen. The queen sent at once for Manohra and explained that it was best that she disappeared for a while. Sending her away to safety would free the king to checkmate the counsellor who had made it look fearsome in the public eye as a national crisis.

Flying in the face of all known classical tenets and traditions, King Adityavan and Queen Shanta Devi drew their daughter-in-law a little map, helped her fasten her wings, and got her to fly off from the royal terrace, back to her father, promising to send the prince after her when he came back.

Sure enough, the prince came back and took himself off to Himavan and sent a message to his lost lady through a maid. Manohra did not want Prince Suthon to appear before her parents travel-stained, and smuggled out nice clothes for him to meet her father in. After passing a triple-test of strength and skill to make the marriage legal from Manohra's father's point of view, Prince Suthon took Manohra back home and lived happily ever after. King Adityavan and Queen Shanta Devi attained immortality across the East for choosing to save their daughter-in-law instead of sacrificing her as they could have done so easily, had they succumbed to superstitious instinct. No one can tell precisely what became of the conniving court-counsellor but it's agreed that he was most probably fed to a tiger.

*(shebaba09@gmail.com)*

## MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

### No compromise

Ref: *'1 nation 1 poll' panel seeks public comments in 10 days* (Jan 7). One nation one poll formula brings the nation together despite its diversity. Some opposition parties are also in favour of this policy. The simultaneous election system can bring the nation in sync. However the Centre and states' tenure of five years should not be compromised for one nation one poll.
**Ravi Nair, Palakkad**

### Splendid piece

Ref: *Searching for ram, the king of hearts* (Jan 7). I am astonished as to how the author was able to connect historical facts and evidence that coincide with the Ramayana period. Of all the editorials I have read, this one was by far the best. Bravo!
**Hari Kalyanasundaram Ayyar, email**

### Eradicating violence

Ref: *CPM, Congress condemn TMC, denounce state of law in West Bengal under Didi* (Jan 7). The attacks on the ED team and the law and order situation in West Bengal call for stringent actions. All the parties except TMC want to deal with this situation swiftly. The Centre and the governor should intervene to apprehend the culprits and eradicate violence.
**Rajarao Kumar, Bengaluru**

### Complicating matters

Ref: *It's personal faith, one can go to Ram Temple any day without invite: Kharge* (Jan 7). Congress president is right in discounting the importance of invitations for the consecration of the Ram Mandir. Temple doors are open for all and Ram Mandir is not going to be any different. It is the unending hype over the invites that is complicating the issue.
**C V Aravind, email**

### Adding feathers

The placing of Aditya-L1 in the halo orbit of the Sun-Earth system, which is about 1.5 million kms away from us, is a great achievement. The Aditya mission will be a boon as it will aid those who are studying interplanetary science. With this success ISRO has added one more golden feather on its cap.
**P P Sahadevan, Nileshwar**

### Wise decision

Congress government in Telangana has taken a wise decision by not giving permission to the E-formula car racing world championship. The location selected by the earlier BRS government brought a lot of hardship to common people. To conduct this type of a race, one should choose a location in the outskirts of Hyderabad.
**T Kailash Ditya, Hyderabad**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 60, No. 7 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

**POSTS OF THE DAY**

**Himanta Biswa Sarma** @himantabiswa
While we are talking about #ExploreIndianIslands, you wouldn't believe it, Assam has 2,000 riverine & shifting islands.

**Pawan Khera** @Pawankhera
Post 2014, commercial reef fishing has dented the resilience of reef. In 2012, Lakshadweep Action Plan on Climate Change was formulated integrating the proposed development programmes of the UT.

**Priyanka Chaturvedi** @priyankac19
Wonder if our foreign policy and international relations will be decided by social media, influencers, film actors or ministers in-charge and the GoI?

# BJP mulls victory formula, revisits win in state polls

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE BJP is contemplating a strategy for this year's parliamentary polls on the lines of the one adopted for the three Assembly elections in the Hindi heartland which paid the party handsome dividends a month ago. The party is keeping its 'rulebook' ready for especially five states — West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Telangana.

The party's think tank is deliberating upon more features that could be incorporated into the strategy depending on the socio-political situation in a state. Sources said the party is in the process of short-listing candidates with a higher degree of winnability in more than 150 Lok Sabha seats.

"If everything goes well, the first and second lists of candidates for 145-150 'weak seats' would most probably be announced between January 15 and February 14," said a senior BJP functionary. The buzz is that a good number of party nominations for these seats may go to women candidates as a part of positive messaging over the recent law on women's reservation.

Speaking to this newspaper, a senior party functionary from Bihar, where the BJP is learnt to have identified around a dozen 'weak seats,' the first list of candidates may be longer than the second list. It is expected that the central leadership will release the first list between January 14 and 22, as the auspicious time starts, sources said.

A year ago, the BJP prepared a comprehensive list of 160 LS seats and placed them under the 'weak category' on which the party had either poorly performed or lost the election in close fights in 2019.

"Most of the weak seats are in West Bengal, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha," said a source.

### STRATEGIC 'EDGE'

**'WEAK SEATS'**

**36** in TN, **12** each in UP, Bihar, Odisha & Telangana, **23** in West Bengal, **24** in Maharashtra, **25** in Andhra and **20** in Kerala

**TACTICS**
Party launches several outreaches ahead of LS polls with caste and other equations being taken into account. Organisational changes also likely

**FRESH FACES**
BJP may field fresh candidates with strong ground-level support on more than **70-75** out of **160** weak seats

# Battle-ready: Cong sets up poll panels in 8 states

## Seat-sharing talks with several parties from INDIA bloc have begun

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

AS part of its preparations for the Lok Sabha elections scheduled to be held this year, the Congress party on Sunday said that it has set up election committees for eight states, namely Rajasthan, Kerala, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Tripura. The party has also set up a political affairs committee for Madhya Pradesh.

According to a statement released by the party, K Sudhakar was appointed the chairman of election committee in Kerala. The committee also includes senior leaders such as AK Antony, KC Venugopal, Ramesh Chennithala, Vayalar Ravi, VD Satheeshan, K Suresh, Mullapalli Ramachandran and Shashi Tharoor.

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy is anointed as the chairman of election committee in the Telugu state. The Telangana election committee has deputy chief minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, and other leaders such as Uttam Kumar Reddy and V Hanumantha Rao as its members.

While Rajasthan PCC (Pradesh Congress Committee) president Govind Singh Dotasra was appointed as the chairman of the election committee in the state, in Himachal Pradesh, state PCC president Pratibha Singh was given the role. In Chhattisgarh, Deepak Baij was appointed the chairman of election committee; in Manipur, K Meghachandra Singh; in Nagaland, S Supongmeren Jamir and in Madhya Pradesh, Jitu Patwari.

Congress has also set up a political affairs committee in Madhya Pradesh. This will be headed by AICC in-charge of the state, Jitendra Singh.

Meanwhile, the grand old party has begun seat-sharing talks with several parties from the Opposition INDIA bloc, suggest reports. The five-member committee on seat-sharing, headed by Mukul Wasnik and comprising senior leaders such as Ashok Gehlot and Bhupesh Baghel, has submitted its internal survey report to party chief Mallikarjun Kharge.

Wasnik and other members of the committee on Sunday held discussions on seat-sharing with RJD MP Manoj Jha. RJD chief Lalu Prasad and deputy chief minister Tejashwi Prasad Yadav also had telephonic conversations with the former. Formal negotiations for seat-sharing with Aam Aadmi Party in Punjab and Delhi will begin on Monday.

**Across the country, there are crores of citizens, lakhs of organisations and thousands of movements who fight for justice at the grassroots. The Congress party invites each individual... to join the Nyay Yatra**

Jairam Ramesh, Congress leader

### Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra

The Congress on Sunday invited people, civil society organisations and all movements that stand for justice and protecting Babasaheb Ambedkar's Constitution to join the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra from Manipur to Mumbai starting January 14.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh appealed to people to participate in the Yatra. "The Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra is the Congress party's campaign led by Rahul Gandhi for economic, social and political justice for every Indian," Ramesh said.

Across the country, there are crores of citizens, lakhs of organisations and thousands of movements who fight for justice at the grassroots, he said.

## POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
Email: shahid@newindianexpress.com

### Ram Temple Opening

**PM TO BJP: DON'T CROWD AYODHYA ON JAN 22**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has advised the BJP leaders against going to Ayodhya to attend the Pran Pratishtha of Ram Lalla on January 22. At a meeting of party's national office-bearers on December 22, he suggested to the BJP leaders present that they go for a darshan after the consecration ceremony. The party leaders have instead been asked to remain in their home towns and organise live telecast of the deity's installation ceremony at every polling booth in their area. The BJP plans to use the occasion to connect with the maximum number of people in the run-up to the Lok Sabha election. It is preparing to start a cleanliness drive across all temples and Teerth Sthans in the country. Party leaders are being assigned religious places and Teerths. The Swachchta Abhiyan will begin on the auspicious day of Makar Sankranti on January 14 and continue till the consecration day. On the day of Pran Pratishtha, BJP members will encourage people to light diyas at their houses and business establishments. The day will be celebrated like Diwali across the country by the BJP rank and file. The RSS, meanwhile, is engaged in Akshat (unbroken rice used in rituals) distribution. The Sangh plans to reach 20 crore households through the programme.

### Tremors Within

**DROPPED AS GEN SECY, TARIQ MAY QUIT CONG**

Tariq Anwar, who once ran the Congress as the closest aide to party president Sitaram Kesri, has been sulking after being dropped from the team of the party's central office-bearers. He did not attend the meeting of the Congress Working Committee held after the organisational restructuring. Sources said Anwar is extremely hurt as he was the only general secretary to be removed by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge in the rejig on December 23. They did not rule out the possibility of his resignation from the party's primary membership. Anwar was once part of the famous trio 'Amar, Akbar, Anthony' which included Sharad Pawar, Anwar and P A Sangma. The three had protested against the leadership of Sonia Gandhi over her foreign origin and walked out of the party along with their supporters to form the Nationalist Congress Party. According to sources, Anwar may return to the NCP.

### INDIA at Crossroads

**SP's SUN-GAZING & TMC, SENA's GRANDSTANDING**

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav's announcement that he will not start the seat-sharing discussions until the sun goes into Uttarayan, which happens on Makar Sankranti on January 14, has thrown Congress' timelines awry. The Congress was keen to finish these discussions before the start of its former president Rahul Gandhi's Manipur-to-Mumbai Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra on January 14 this year. The five-member National Alliance Committee set up by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge has had hectic consultations with the party's state units regarding their expectations and the reasoning thereof. The committee will meet for three consecutive days starting tomorrow and finish all internal consultations by January 10. But Akhilesh's insistence on an auspicious time for talks has upset the Congress plans. It has, therefore, decided to go into the tougher terrain and begin talks with Shiv Sena, TMC and AAP. Sources said barring the Samajwadi Party, all other INDIA partners will likely conclude the seat pact by January 14.

# 3 criminal laws reflect paradigm shift in country's justice system, says PM

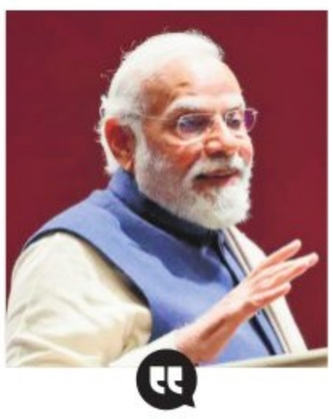
RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has termed the recently enacted new criminal justice laws, which generated protests from the Opposition, a "paradigm shift" in the criminal justice system.

Speaking at the 58th all-India conference of directors general/ inspectors general of police, which started on January 6 and 7 in Jaipur, the PM said, "These new criminal laws were framed with the spirit of 'citizen first, dignity first and justice first'. These laws are a paradigm shift in the criminal justice system. Instead of working with 'danda' (stick), the police now need to work with data."

Exhorting the top police officers from across the country, the PM told them to think imaginatively to convey the emotional spirit behind the newly enacted laws to various sections of society.

Putting special focus on sensitising women and girls about their rights and protection provided to them under the new Laws, Modi also told the police to focus on women's safety by ensuring that they work fearlessly "anywhere anytime."



**We can organise various sports events as a way to strengthen citizen-police connect. Government officials can stay in border villages to establish better links with the locals**

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Underscoring the need to reinforce the positive image of the police for the citizens, he advocated a wider use of social media at the police station level for disseminating positive information and messages for the benefit of citizens.

The PM suggested the use of social media for disseminating advanced information on natural calamities and disaster relief. "We can organise various sports events as a way to strengthen citizen-police connect. Government officials can stay in border villages to establish better links with the locals as these border villages are the first villages of India," he said.

The PM highlighted the success of India's first solar mission Aditya-L1 and the swift rescue of 21 crew members from the hijacked vessel in the Arabian Sea by the Indian Navy. "Such achievements show India is emerging as a major power in the world. The Aditya-L1 success is similar to the success of the Chandrayaan-3 mission," he said.

"In line with the improving our global profile and increasing national strength, the Indian police should transform itself into a modern and world-class force to realise the vision of a developed India by 2047," he said. He also distributed the police medals for distinguished services.

The meet was also attended by the Home Minister, National Security Advisor, ministers of state for home, Union home secretary, DGsP/IGsP of states and UTs, and heads of Central police Organisations and Central Armed Police Forces.

# Rajnath to hold bilateral talks with Shapps in UK, discuss defence, security

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

IN a significant move towards strengthening the bilateral relations between India and the United Kingdom, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will visit the UK on Sunday to discuss defence, security and industrial cooperation issues with his counterpart, Secretary of State for Defence Grant Shapps.

Singh will be the first defence minister to visit London in 22 years after George Fernandes in January 2002.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) on Sunday said, "He will be accompanied by a high-level defence ministry delegation, comprising senior officials from DRDO, service headquarters, department of defence, and department of defence production."

During his visit, Singh will hold a bilateral meeting with Shapps. "They are expected to discuss a wide range of defence, security and industrial cooperation issues," the MoD said.

He will "also interact with the CEOs and industry leaders of UK defence industry and the Indian community there."

Rajnath Singh is also expected to call on UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and hold a meeting with Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Affairs David Cameron, the MoD said.

India and the UK are taking steps to boost their ties. The two are negotiating a Free Trade Agreement since 2022.

It was in May 2021, that the then British PM Boris Johnson and PM Modi adopted an ambitious 'Roadmap 2030' to elevate bilateral ties to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership'. The Roadmap, other than in defence and security matters, will pave the way for a deeper and stronger engagement, over the next decade, also in the areas of people-to-people contacts, trade and economy, climate action and health.

In an important move, the inaugural India-UK 2+2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue was held in New Delhi in October 2023.

# India's first health food street launched in Ujjain

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT & ANURAAG SINGH @ New Delhi/ Bhopal

INDIA'S first health food street, Prasadam, was launched on Sunday by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya in the city of Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh.

The food street at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok in Ujjain, will be the first of 100 food streets that will come up in as many districts across the country. Housing the world-famous Mahakal Temple, Ujjain is also the home city of MP's new Chief Minister Mohan Yadav.

Mandaviya, who opened the food street, along with the Chief Minister, stated that the launch marks a significant stride in the country's journey towards healthy eating habits.

"Prasadam will connect common citizens in every corner of the country with pure and safe local and traditional food," Mandaviya said.

The two leaders also launched several other projects, including a 30-bed additional ward under the emergency COVID response package.

To achieve the vision of 'Viksit Bharat', the citizens of the nation must be healthy, the health minister said.

Prasadam, the health food street opened in Ujjain on Sunday | EXPRESS

Later, Mandaviya launched the official website for the Healthy and Hygienic Food Street initiative and unveiled a brochure outlining the standard operating procedures for these food hubs.

According to officials, the financial assistance for the initiative to the states and UTs is being provided in the form of ₹1 crore per food street under the National Health Mission in the ratio of 60:40 or 90:10 to fill up critical gaps, with the condition that standard branding of these food streets will be done as per FSSAI guidelines, they added.

Spread over an area of 939 square metres, Prasadam, which will house 19 shops, has been developed at a cost of ₹1.75 crore and will reportedly become fully functional by February first week. Besides, it will offer convenient and culturally rich dining options for the 1-1.5 lakh devotees who visit the Mahakaleshwar temple daily.

The newly launched food street is designed to provide various facilities including a kids' play area, drinking water facility, CCTV surveillance, parking, public conveniences and seating spaces, officials said.

Prasadam will also contribute to economic growth and community engagement, the officials added.

On Saturday, while chairing a meeting through video-conferencing in Indore, the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister took stock of preparations for the National Youth Day, Makar Sankranti festival and the deposition of the next instalment under the Ladli Behna Yojana.

It was also decided to hold programmes based on women's empowerment across the state from January 10 to 15. Besides, other programmes will also be organised during the Makar Sankranti festival and National Youth Day.

# With rising use of drones, DRDO develops own counter technology

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

AMIDST the rising deployment of drones for surveillance, logistics support and even attack, India has developed an effective counter-technology. This is along with the multiple types of drones being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

As per the report recently tabled by a parliamentary standing committee, the DRDO "is developing an indigenous counter-drone technology, which is capable of counter-attacks including detection, soft kill and hard kill of all types of drones."

"The counter-drone system is ready for production and is already demonstrated to armed services and other internal security agencies," said sources, adding, "The technology is transferred to Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru, who is the production agency for the system. In addition, Transfer of Technology is given to four more Indian firms for production of anti-drone systems."

"Anti-drone technology is where the focus should be, and in that, DRDO is working very closely with the industry. We are also doing a lot of R&D for anti-drone protection against these types of drones," said a DRDO representative.

Representative image

The work on meeting the rising demand for different types of drones is also being carried out, including micro-drones.

The Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) unmanned aerial vehicle TAPAS developed for ISTAR (Intelligence in Surveillance, Reconnaissance And Target Acquisition) application is in the advanced stage of developmental trials.

Short Range Armed UAV Archer is being developed for reconnaissance, surveillance and low-intensity conflict.

"Developmental flight trials are under progress," said a DRDO statement.

Meanwhile, the parliamentary committee report also talks about delays in projects by the DRDO. Of the 55 projects, 23 were not completed within the stipulated time.

The DRDO secretary apprised before the committee that "as a measure, we are now hiring a consultant, who will tell us the major reasons due to which projects are getting delayed. Based on that, we will try to correct."

**In advanced stages**

"The counter-drone system is ready for production and is already demonstrated to armed services and internal security agencies," said sources. "The technology is transferred to BEL in Bengaluru, the production agency for the system. Four more Indian firms are tasked for production of anti-drone systems."

**MEAT SHOPS**

Madhya Pradesh CM Mohan Yadav said that 25,000 shops selling meat and fish in the open have been shut down in the state in the last 25 days. Hours after he took oath as CM on December 13, Yadav had issued directives banning meat and fish sale in open places.

**3 PEOPLE** FROM BANGLADESH HELD IN MAHA

| INDIA | Max | Min | | Max | Min |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 20 | 10 | Mumbai | 32 | 24 |
| Bhopal | 23 | 15 | Panaji | 08 | 02 |
| Jaipur | 20 | 09 | Patna | 21 | 15 |
| Amritsar | 16 | 04 | Lucknow | 19 | 10 |
| Chennai | 26 | 24 | Port Blair | 34 | 26 |
| Kolkata | 25 | 15 | Imphal | 23 | 05 |
| Srinagar | 09 | -05 | Chandigarh | 20 | 04 |

# Oust corrupt TMC : CPM tells Bengal

Those who promised 'paribartan' are in jails on corruption charges, says youth wing leader

**PRANAB MONDAL** @Kolkata

GIVING a clarion call ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, the CPM on Sunday asked the people of West Bengal, who previously supported the Trinamool Congress, to join the party's fight against the corruption orchestrated by the state's ruling party, which is also a Left Front's INDIA alliance partner.

Addressing a massive rally in Brigade Parade Ground, Kolkata's prime seat to organise protest programmes, Minakshi Mukherjee, the state president of CPM's youth wing DYFI, which contested against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Nandigram, said, "Our hands are extended to welcome those who once supported the TMC with a hope that it would bring changes but got disappointed because of corruption in the government. You thought an angel would come from the sky and bring paribartan (changes). But now you are witnessing many of the ruling party leadership are facing charges of corruption. They are now sleeping on the floor of jails for snatching away your rights. Our hands are extended to welcome you in the fight of corruption against the TMC.

Thousands of CPM supporters turned up at the rally venue spilling over the arterial thoroughfares of the state capital.

DYFI's West Bengal secretary Minakshi Mukherjee with CPM secretary Md Salim and DYFI chief AA Rahim at the Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata on Sunday | PTI

**Our hands were extended to welcome those who supported the TMC with a hope that it would bring changes but got disappointed because of corruption under the corrupt party** —Minakshi Mukherjee, DYFI Secy

Taking a jibe at chief minister Mamata Banerjee's khela hobe (there will be a game) coinage before the high-octane 2021 Assembly elections, Minakshi, who was the main speaker at the event, said, "We are ready to take control of the field that is marked by you for a game."

From the Kolkata's iconic venue, the CPM vowed to fight both the TMC and BJP in West Bengal in the upcoming general elections. Referring to the Insaaf Yatra (walk for justice), organised by the DYFI covering 2,900 km stretch from north Bengal to south Bengal to urge the people to participate in the rally, CPM state secretary Mohammad Selim said, "On behalf of those gathered at Brigade, I congratulate those who have travelled so many kilometres. There is still a lot of distance to be covered. We do not need help from any Delhi to save West Bengal. CPM is the only alternative to the TMC and not the BJP."

"The youths in the state will have to be united against the ongoing anarchy during the regime of the TC-led government. After completing education, you are jobless. TMC satraps appointed their men in exchange of money snatching away deserving candidates like you. The young blood of the state can end this corruption," he said while addressing the assembly.

The CPM, which failed to send a single MLA in the House of 283 legislators, portrayed the DYFI event as a new milestone because of the huge turnout of supporters. This was the first time since 2008 that the CPM bought its youth wing to the forefront in organising a political rally at a venue considered to be the largest in the Bengal capital. In the 2021 Assembly elections, the CPM, which faced criticism for not giving young party members room to join electoral fray, had fielded a number of young faces from the DYFI to contest against the BJP and the TMC but none of them could secure victory.

Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari rubbished CPM's claim to give the TMC a fight in the elections.

"The CPM is fighting against TMC in West Bengal. But Minakshi's uncle Sitaram Yechuri is sharing biryani with them in Delhi," he said. TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said the turnout in Brigade rally will not get reflected in the election result.

# MP Cong recasts key panels; Nath, Digvijay sons in

**ANURAAG SINGH** @Bhopal

MORE than a month after the shocking assembly polls results, the Congress is gearing up for the Lok Sabha polls in BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh. The All India Congress Committee has reconstituted the Political Affairs Committee (PAC) and State Election Committee (SEC) for Madhya Pradesh, as well as named coordinators for all 29 Lok Sabha seats of the state, months before the 2024 national elections.

The appointments were made by the Congress' national leadership on the first day of the ongoing three-days brainstorming to discuss the dismal results of last month's assembly polls as well as start chalking out a strategy for the upcoming LS polls.

The party which had suffered 1-28 seats loss in the 2019 LS polls while being in power in the state, lost the 2023 year-end assembly polls to the ruling BJP by 66-163 seats while in opposition.

On Saturday evening, the AICC leadership finalized the two committees – the PAC and the State Election Committee. While PAC which is headed by the national general secretary in-charge for the state Jitendra Singh and has the new MP party chief Jitu Patwari as its convener. The PAC will have 32 prime members, while the Election Committee which is headed by Patwari, has 34 members.

The PAC has among its members, both the former CMs – Digvijaya Singh and Kamal Nath – besides their sons, MLA Jaivardhan Singh and MP Nakul Nath respectively, as also Digvijaya Singh's ex-MLA nephew Priyavrat Singh. It also has on board former state party chiefs, including Suresh Pachouri, Kantilal Bhuria, besides the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Umang Singhar and five women members.

### PAC & state poll panel

On Saturday evening, the AICC leadership finalised the two committees – the PAC and the State Election Committee. The PAC will have 32 prime members, while the Election Committee which is headed by Patwari, has 34 members. PAC has five women members, including ex-MP Meenakshi Natarajan

## LUCKNOW DIARY

**NAMITA BAJPAI**

Our correspondent in Uttar Pradesh

namita.bajpai@newindianexpress.com

### Rajbhar asking for too much?

Is SBSP chief OP Rajbhar biting more than he can chew? During his recent meeting with Union home minister Amit Shah, he reportedly sought nine seats to contest — five in UP and four in Bihar. While his demand for five seats in his areas of influence in east UP is understandable what surprised observers is his claim to four seats in the neighbouring state. While leaders of other NDA constituents — Jitan Ram Manjhi, Pashupati Paras and Chirag Paswan — would be happy to get between one-to-three seats to contest, Rajbhar's demand seems outlandish to political analysts.

### Rare honour for state capital

In a major first for the state, Lucknow Cantonment would be hosting its Army Day Parade on January 15. As a precursor to the D-day, the Central Command hosted a three-day 'Know Your Army' event starting Friday. Praising the Indian army after inaugurating the event, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that only a strong army can realise the vision of a secure and sovereign nation. Thanking the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister for the festival and annual parade being organised outside the national capital for the first time, the Chief Minister said.

### Pran Pratishtha live in UP jails

Inmates of Uttar Pradesh prisons would be second to none when it comes to January 22 consecration ceremony of Ram temple. According to UP prisons minister Dharmveer Prajapati, over 50,000 copies each of religious books — Hanuman Chalisa and Sundar Kand — will be distributed among prisoners in all 72 district jails, sub-jails and central prisons across the state before the 'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 22. All the jails will have the live streaming of the event for their inmates. "It is one of the rarest events that everybody, including the prisoners, should witness," he said.

# Raj Cong suspends rape accused ex-MLA after another video goes viral

**RAJESH ASNANI** @Jaipur

THE Congress has finally taken action against its controversial former MLA Mewaram Jain who has been seen in a few objectionable sex videos that have gone viral.

A woman in Barmer had accused him of raping her and molesting her minor daughter. The case had been quite prominent during the elections last year. On Saturday, an objectionable video went viral after which the Congress finally took cognizance and suspended him from the party. The BJP government says action will be taken after a detailed inquiry into the matter.

Jain was a three-time MLA and municipal chairman. Earlier, a married woman had filed a rape case against him in Rajiv Nagar police station of Jodhpur. Two obscene videos were also mentioned by her.

This issue was raised even during the assembly elections. The woman had alleged that Jain and his partner Ramswaroop Acharya raped her and molested her 15-year-old minor daughter. On the complaint of the woman, a case was registered against nine persons including Mevaram Jain and RPS Anand Singh Rajpurohit.

After the rape case came to light, the police got the woman medically examined and also recorded the statement of the victim. Jain had taken refuge in the court on this matter. Later, the High Court gave him relief and stayed the arrest till January 25.

The video in question, allegedly involving Jain, went viral on Friday, with a longer 33-minute video surfacing on Saturday. Although the Congress initially remained silent, a statement was issued, officially terminating Jain's primary membership and expelling him from the party, deeming immediate suspension necessary.

### Refuge in court

After the rape case came to light, the police got the woman medically examined and also recorded the statement of the victim. Jain had taken refuge in the court on this matter. Later, the High Court gave him relief and stayed the arrest till January 25.

# Baig returns to PDP 4 years after quitting it

**FAYAZ WANI** @Srinagar

In a shot in the arm for PDP, seasoned politician and former J&K Chief Deputy Chief Muzaffar Hussain Baig, who is close to power circles in New Delhi and who blamed the Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti's provocative statements for Article 370 abrogation and downgrading of erstwhile J&K state into Union Territory earlier, on Sunday along with his wife re-joined PDP, the party he quit in 2020.

Former Lok Sanha MP Baig, 77, rejoined the PDP on the 8th death anniversary of party founder and former J&K Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. Baig visited the mausoleum of the late Mufti at Bijbehara in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on his death anniversary to pay homage to the former CM.

After paying tribute to the late Mufti, Baig while addressing a gathering of PDP workers said, "Earlier, I used to be a colleague of Mehbooba Mufti. I am now her brother and as a brother, if I have to sacrifice my life for her, I will not hesitate. Two big supporters of Mehbooba are my daughters."

# Lt Guv faces flak as power-starved J&K leases electricity to Raj project

**FAYAZ WANI** @Srinagar

THE Lt Governor administration in power-starved Jammu and Kashmir has come under fire from the political parties for leasing electricity from an under-construction 850 MWs Ratle power project in Kishtwar to Rajasthan for 40 years. The Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been signed at a time when Valley is facing power crisis in the months of winter.

"At a time when J&K is facing a severe power crisis never witnessed before, our hydro electric resources are being outsourced to other states. Yet another decision that will rob people of basic amenities with an intention to collectively punish inhabitants of J&K," tweeted PDP chief and ex-J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti.

She was referring to the PPA between J&K's Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited and Rajasthan Urja Vikas and IT Services Limited on January 3. As per the agreement, Ratle Hydro Power Corporation Ltd would supply electricity from its 850 MWs power plant in Kishtwar to Rajasthan for 40 years.

People protest against power shortage in Jammu and Kashmir | PTI FILE

The Ratle Hydro Electric Power Corporation Ltd is a joint venture company of state-owned NHPC Ltd and Jammu and Kashmir government's State Power Development Corporation (JKSPDC).

The agreement has been signed at a time when Kashmir is facing worst power crisis in the winter. In the Valley, the metered areas are facing upto 4.5 to 6 hours power cuts while non metered areas are facing 8 to 10 hours power cuts daily.

Slamming the power purchase agreement, National Conference spokesman Imran Nabi Dar asked the government to bring out a white paper to inform people about its underlying purpose and what benefits will J&K reap from it.

Alleging that agreement has stirred the hornet's nest, he said, "Normally PPAs usually last for a maximum of 20 years but in this case they are signing it for 40 years at a pre negotiated price, which is also unknown. For electricity starved people of J&K, is this agreement a solution?"

J&K Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari said at a time when J&K is facing an acute electricity crisis, the leasing out of electricity from Rattle power project Kishtwar to Rajasthan is quite puzzling.

"The administration has been claiming that it was buying power to meet demands in J&K while at the same time leasing out its own supply to another state is beyond comprehension," he said.

The Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) of Ghulam Nabi Azadi also criticised the government over supplying electricity to Rajasthan saying signing of contracts and sourcing energy from energy deficient regions is a bizarre move.

# Flight scare: Bird-hit incidents on rise in Gujarat

**DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA** @Ahmedabad

AIRPORTS across Gujarat have witnessed a surge in bird-hit incidents involving aircraft with the state reporting as many as 462 cases in the past five years, as per government data.

In response to a question in the Rajya Sabha by MP Parimal Nathwani on December 11, 2023, the Civil Aviation Ministry stated that the incidents in Gujarat include 80 in 2018, 50 in 2019, 77 in 2020, 69 in 2021, 72 in 2022, and the highest of 114 in 2023 ranking the state third in the country in terms of bird hits.

As per the government data, a highest number of bird-hit cases were reported in Delhi with 705 incidents, followed by Maharashtra ( 611), Gujarat (462), Tamil Nadu (391), Karnataka (367), and Kerala (343).

The government, in its response to the RTI, stated that the majority of bird strikes in Gujarat have occurred at the Ahmedabad airport.

According to Ahmedabad Airport statistics, a total of 73 bird-hit occurrences were reported in 2019-20, whereas 41 were reported in 2020-21, 29 in 2021-22, and 38 in 2022-23.

While an animal strike was reported in 2020, another occurred in 2022.

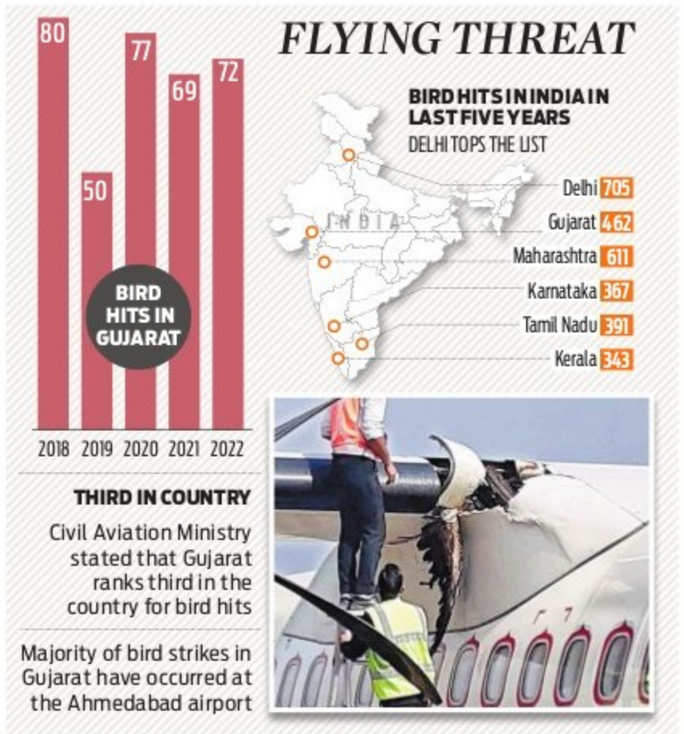
The city of Surat in Gujarat has the second-highest number of bird hits, with 20 in 2020-21, 21 in 2021-22, and 15 in 2022-23, according to official statistics. Sanjay Jain of the 'Working Airport at Surat group' alleged that the main reason for bird hits at the Surat airport is the presence of illegal shrimp ponds around the airport.

The birds flock the water body to catch the shrimps leading to bird-hits at the airport. Many submissions have been made in connection with it.

However, the issue has yet to be rectified. Vadodara comes in third place in bird-hit with two incidents in 2020-21, as many as 11 in 2021-22, and 25 in 2022-23, while Rajkot airport ranks fourth with 4 cases in the year 2020-21, six in 2021-22, and zero incidents reported in 2022-23.

An aviation activist on the condition of anonymity, stated, "Lakhs of rupees are spent every year to control bird strikes at Gujarat airports. This includes the routine use of firecrackers, laser guns, zone guns, ferrous light traps, and so on."

"However, the bird strike was uncontrollable. Bird strikes imperil passengers' lives while also causing significant damage to the aircraft." he added.




# Mizoram to take care of refugees from Myanmar, Kuki-Zo tribals: CM

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @Guwahati

THE Mizoram government will keep taking care of the refugees from Myanmar and Kuki-Zo tribals displaced by the ethnic violence in Manipur, Chief Minister Lalduhoma said.

After returning to Mizoram from Delhi, he told journalists that he had discussed the refugee and other issues with prime minister Narendra Modi, home minister Amit Shah and external affairs minister S Jaishankar.

Lalduhoma, who took over as the CM last month, said the Centre was ready to collaborate with the Mizoram government in providing assistance to the refugees and the displaced people.

According to Mizoram government records, some 31,000 refugees from Myanmar and 12,000 displaced people from Manipur are taking refuge in the Zoram People's Movement-ruled state.

The trouble in Myanmar began in February 2021 after the military in the country had captured power through a coup. The pro-democracy forces are waging an armed struggle with the Myanmarese junta. Ever since the violence broke out, there has been a steady influx of Chin refugees into Mizoram.

Lalduhoma said as India is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, the Centre cannot give refugee status to the fleeing foreigners.

The Centre has plans to fence the porous Myanmar border but the Mizoram government reportedly stands opposed to it. It is hopeful that the Centre will not go ahead with this move. The Lalduhoma government is opposing border fencing as it feels it will further divide the Zo tribals who are already separated by interstate and international borders.

Chins, Mizos, Kukis, Zomis, Hmars, and Kuki-Chins are ethnic cousins, belonging to the Zo community. Chins and Mizos living in places near the international border have their relatives on each other's side.

The proposed fencing will come in conflict with the Free Movement Regime (FMR) agreement.

India and Myanmar had signed the pact in 2018 as part of the Act East Policy in order to facilitate the movement of people residing along the international border and encourage people-to-people contact.

Free Movement Regime allowed them to travel upto 16 km inside each other's territories without travel documents.

### Ethnic cousins

Chins, Mizos, Kukis, Zomis, Hmars and Kuki-Chins are ethnic cousins, belonging to the Zo community. Chins and Mizos living in places near the international border have their relatives on each other's side. The Centre has plans to fence the porous Myanmar border but the Mizoram government stands opposed to it.

# Hasina wins 4th straight term amid oppn boycott

## Awami League wins more than 200 in the 300-seat parliament; counting still on; final results today

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

BANGLADESH Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday secured a record fifth term (fourth consecutive term) as her Awami League party won two-thirds of the seats in the general elections marred by sporadic violence and a boycott by the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its allies. "We can call Awami League winner with the already available results but the final announcement will be made after the end of the counting of votes in the rest of the constituencies," an election commission spokesman said. The final results are expected to be announced on Monday.

Hasina won the Gopalganj-3 seat for the eighth time since 1986. She bagged 2,49,965 votes while her nearest rival M Nizam Uddin Lashkar from the Bangladesh Supreme Party secured just 469 votes.

Media collating results from polling stations said Hasina had won more than two-thirds of seats in parliament with nearly 90% of the results declared. Of the 264 seats of the total 300 announced, Hasina's Awami League had won 204 and her allied Jatiya Party nine more, according to results collated by *Somoy TV*. Among the victors was Shakib Al Hasan, the Bangladesh cricket team captain, who won his seat for Hasina's party be a landslide. Hasina has urged members of her Awami League party not to take out any victory processions after the results are announced. As per the election commission, the voter turnout was 40%, in contrast to the 80% recorded in 2018. Though the election day was largely peaceful, there were some reports of violence from different parts of the country.

The election was boycotted by the opposition led by Khaleda Zia's BNP, which has called the process a sham and urged people not to take part.

Two persons were taken to Chattogram Medical College Hospital after they were shot during a clash between supporters of two candidates running for the Chattogram-10 seat. Clashes were also reported from other parts.

Two persons were injured after a clash between supporters of the Awami League candidate and an independent candidate at a polling centre in Jamalpur's Sharishabari.

Bangladeshi polling officials count votes after the voting ended at a polling station in Munshiganj, outside Dhaka in Bangladesh on Sunday | AP

# Israel says part of Hamas dismantled in northern Gaza

JERUSALEM

THE Israeli military signalled that it has wrapped up major combat in northern Gaza, saying it has completed dismantling Hamas' military infrastructure there, as the war against Hamas entered its fourth month on Sunday.

Israel did not address troop deployments in northern Gaza going forward. Military spokesman Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari said late Saturday that forces would focus on the central and southern parts of the territory and strengthen defences along the Israel-Gaza border fence.

The announcement came ahead of a visit to Israel by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who on Sunday was in Qatar. US officials have urged Israel to wind down its blistering offensive in Gaza and shift to more targeted attacks against Hamas leaders.

Meanwhile, an airstrike near Rafah killed two journalists on Sunday, including Hamza Dahdouh, the oldest son of Wael Dahdouh, *Al Jazeera's* chief correspondent in Gaza. *Al Jazeera* broadcast footage of Dahdouh, weeping and holding his son's hand, before walking away in a daze. Israel's military had no immediate comment.

*Al Jazeera* strongly condemned the killings and other "brutal attacks against journalists and their families" by Israeli forces, and urged the International Criminal Court, governments and human rights groups to hold Israel accountable.

Dahdouh previously lost his wife, two children and a grandchild in an October 26 airstrike, and was wounded in an Israeli strike last month that killed a co-worker. "The world is blind to what's happening in Gaza Strip," Dahdouh said, blinking back tears. *AP*

Palestinians mourn for relatives killed in the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip outside a morgue in Khan Younis on Sunday | AP

# Fire in Rohingya refugee camp in B'desh guts over 1,000 shelters

COX'S BAZAR

A fire raced through a crammed camp of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh's southern coastal district of Cox's Bazar, gutting more than 1,000 shelters and leaving thousands homeless, a fire official and the United Nations said on Sunday.

The United Nations refugee agency said "nearly 7,000 Rohingya refugees" had been left homeless, but that there were no casualties.

The blaze tore through the tightly packed complex of bamboo as well as tarpaulin shelters in the early hours of Sunday morning at a camp in the country's southeast, refugee commissioner Mizanur Rahman said.

"At least 711 shelters were fully burnt and 63 were partially damaged," said Rahman, who put the number of homeless at 4,000. "We have ordered a probe into the fire," he further added. "We suspect it is an act of arson."

The UN said 120 facilities, including learning centres, mosques and healthcare centres, had also been "destroyed or damaged by the inferno."

An *AP* reporter at the scene said that thousands of refugees, including women and children, rushed to a nearby open field with their belongings as the fire started spreading aggressively during the early hours on Sunday.

"We are suffering from the cold severely, facing a difficult situation. Currently, we are sitting by a stream with my grandchildren after narrowly escaping a life-threatening situation. Our homes have been destroyed by the fire." said 65-year-old Zuhura Begum. *Agencies*

## ASIA MATTERS

### Presidential hopefuls face off in debate

Indonesia's presidential candidates held a second debate on Sunday, where they discussed defence, geopolitics, and diplomacy. Defence Minister Prabowo Subianto, former Central Java governor Ganjar Pranowo, and former Jakarta governor Anies Baswedan will compete in a February 14 election. Subianto said that if elected, he would strive to maintain positive relations with all global powers. Pranowo outlined a proposal for a temporary deal on South China Sea. Baswedan raised the issue of non-traditional threats such as a rise in hacking incidents

### Not in cabinet, says daughter of thaksin

Thailand's Pheu Thai Party leader Paetongtarn Shinawatra on Sunday denied that she would be appointed a cabinet minister. She said her priority is to implement the policies of her party, including the universal healthcare scheme. "I'm not in the cabinet line-up. There is no discussion about it... But right now my name isn't in the cabinet," she said. Shinawatra is the daughter of ex-PM Thaksin Shinawatra. She also declined to comment about cabinet posts involving three party ministers who were speculated to resign as list-MPs

EXPRESS READ

### US air safety regulator grounds 737 MAX 9 jets

Washington: The US air safety regulator said it had grounded some versions of Boeing's 737 MAX 9 jets pending inspections, causing dozens of flight cancellations a day after a panel blew out of one of the planes over Oregon. The Federal Aviation Administration "is requiring immediate inspections of certain Boeing 737 MAX 9 planes before they can return to flight," it said on X. It added that around 171 aircraft worldwide would be affected, with each inspection taking four to eight hours.


**Aptus Value Housing Finance Indian Ltd.**
8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010. Telephone: 044-4565 0003

**DEMAND NOTICE**

**Notice Under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.**

You, the under mentioned borrower/mortgagor is hereby informed that the Company has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the Notice under Section 13(2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for borrower/s has been returned undelivered. Hence you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accruing there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the company will proceed against you by exercising its right under Sub-sec (4) of Section 13 of the Act by enforcing the below mentioned security to realize its dues with interests and cost. It is needless to mention that this Notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the company.

| Name and Address of the Borrower & Guarantors | Date of Demand Notice & Amount Outstanding |
|---|---|
| **APPLICANT & CO-APPLICANT 1.MR. ANDANAIAH 2.MR., PRABHU 3.MRS. SHIVAMMA All are Residing at :** 2nd Division Jyothinagar, Magadi Town, Karnataka – 562 120. **GUARANTOR : 4.RAMACHANDRAIAH M C** S/O Chikkegowda Mayanayakanahalli , Magadi Taluk, Ramangar- 562120 Ph- 98863211452 **LOAN NO:** APEEN0051798 & APEEN0051808 | **Demand Date:** 16.12.2023 & **Rs.9,41,278/-** (Rupees Nine Lakhs Forty One Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Eight Only) & **Rs. 4,17,538/-** (Rupees Four Lakhs Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Eight Only) as on 11.12.2023. **NPA Date:** 08-12-2023 |

**Description of Property:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal Katha No.235/5445/147/1, Situated at, Jyothinagar, 2nd Division, Magadi Town, Magadi Taluk, Ramnagar District, presently comes under Town Municipal Council, Magadi measuring East to West 30ft and North to South 30 Ft and bounded on : of land and building and all other appurtenances attached to the said property. **Boundaries: East By:** Site No.48/1, **West By:** Government Road, **North By:** Vacant Site, **South By:** Government Road.

Date: 16.12.2023 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Magadi Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd.



**IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALURU (CCH-11)**
**O.S. No. 3491/2005**

**BETWEEN : Sri Ravishankar,** S/o. Ramachandra Reddy, aged about 44 years, R/at. Halanayakanagalli, Carmelaram Post, Varthur Hobli, Sarjapur Road, Bangalore-560035. ...PLAINTIFF

**AND :**

**Legal Representatives of deceased Defendant No. 18 (Sri Bachannabasavaiah)**

**18 (a) Smt. Mangamma** W/o late Bachannabasavaiah, Age not known, **18 (b) Sri. Bachaiya** S/o late Bachannabasavaiah, Age not known, **(c) Smt. Sushmitha** D/o late Bachannabasavaiah, Age not known, All are R/at 1208, West of Card Road, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560086. ...DEFENDANTS

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas, the above-named Plaintiff has filed a suit for Declaration of title, Perpetual injunction and other reliefs. Sri. Bachanna Basavaiah was Defendant No.18 in the above suit After the death of Defendant No. 18 the above-named Plaintiff has filed necessary applications to implead the legal heirs of Defendant No. 18 in the above suit. Therefore, the Defendant No. 18(a) to (c) claiming to have any right, title and interest in the above suit filed by the above name Plaintiff are hereby directed to appear before the Hon'ble VI Addl. City Civil and Sessions Judge (CCH-11) at Bangalore **on 03/02/2024 at 11.00 A.M.** in person or by a pleader duly instructed to show cause against the above suit failing which the said suit be heard and determined exparte.

**SCHEDULE**

All that piece and parcel of the alienated land in Old Sy.No. 15/1B, measuring to an extent of 1 acre 19 guntas (out of 1 Acre 39 Guntas) situated at Yellukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, within the limits of Bommanahalli C.M.C. and bounded on: **East by :** Property belonging to Smt. B.M. Shakuntala & H. Govindaraju, **West by :** Property belonging to Sri. Ravindranath, **North by:** Private property & 80 feet Road, **South by:** Land bearing Sy. No.16.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 05.01.2024.

**By Order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.**

Advocate for Plaintiff : **AKASH .V.T,** Office at No. 30, GF-1, Sapthagiri, 10th Cross, 15th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru-560080.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client **Mrs. B. Renuka Bai,** wife of Sri R.Mohan Singh, residing at No.1281, Omkar Nivas, 1st floor, 21st Cross, 23rd Main, 'B' Block, Sreegandada kaval, Bangalore North, Viswaneedam, Bangalore - 560091, has agreed to purchase vacant site property mentioned in the schedule hereunder from Mrs. R.M. Rashmi, wife of Mr. M.J. Balaji Singh, residing at No.1515, 14th Ward, Taluk Office Road, Malur Town, Kolar District-563130, and have also entered into sale agreement and the same is subsisting.

If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims / details of dispute/s within 7 days from the date of this publication. Failing of which my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if there are no third-party claims/objections/disputes in respect of schedule property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

**SCHEDULE**

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing vacant **Site No.60,** New BBMP Khatha No. 240/6&7/60, Old Katha No. 6 & 7, situated at 1st Main Road, 3rd Cross, M.S.Nagar 1st Stage, Thirumenahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, presently comes under the limits of BBMP Ward No.5-Jakkur, Bangalore, property measuring East to West 40-0 feet and North to South 30-0 feet, totally 1200 Sq.ft., and bounded on:

East by : Site Nos. 25 & 26; West by : 30 Feet Road; North by : Site No.59; South by : Site No.61;

**Ajith Kumar .A.S,** Advocate, Vakils Law Forum, #236, Ground Floor, Prabhath Complex, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009. E-Mail: advocateajithkumar@gmail.com Mobile : 9844780238



**DRAFT CITATION**

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSTION JUDGE AT. KOPPAL

**M.V.C.No.592/2006**

Yamanoorappa // VERSUS // Siddappa & others

**Petitioner/Claimant** Yamanoorappa S/o Shankrappa Rathoda, Age-55 Years, Occ-Nil, R/o-Huliyapura, Tq-Kushtagi.

// VERSUS //

**Respondents/Opponents**

1. Siddappa S/o Nimbanna Yelavar, Age-40Years, Occ-Driver, R/o-NWKRTC Bagalakot Bus Depot, R/o-Bagalakot.
2. The divisional Manager NWKRTC Bagalakot Division Bagalkot.
3. Ramakrishna. K. M/s R.K. Transport No.30 AGB Colony Mahalakshmi Pura-Bangalore.
4. The Divisional Manager, Oriental Insurance Co Ltd Bellary.

**ISSUE NOTICE THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION AS BELOW.**

**Proposed Respondent No.5 & 6**

5. S.Muniraju S/o Somaraj Gowder, Age-45Years, Occ-Driver, R/o-Charpathi village Tq & Dist-Krishna giri, State-Tamilnadu.
6. Sri.N.Murugesan S/o Nagappan Age:Major, Occ-Lorry owner, R/o- # 20, II nd Main K.P.N.Extention Bangalore-02.

**WHEREAS** i am the Petitioner/ claimant have filed the M.V.C. No.592/2006 against respondent No.1 to 4. The proposed respondents No.5 and 6 intentionally avoiding the court notices. Now the petitioner/claimant is taken notice in "The Indian Express" **daily** news paper by way of publication. This is final notice to proposed respondent No.5 & 6 to appear before **Hon'ble Principal District and session judge at Koppal on 09/02/2024.** If there is default of your appearance on that **date** the matter will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court 05 /01/2024.

By order of the Hon'ble court
**CMO,** Principal District & Session judge Koppal
M.B.Bhute Advocate Koppal



**PROPERTIES FOR BUYING / SELLING / RENTING IN BANGALORE**

Available For Rent / Sale Built To Suit Ground Rent Warehouse, Car Workshop, Godown, Hoskote and Budigere Cross, Jigani, Electronic City, White Field / Soukya Road, Peenya / Yelahanka / New Airport Road Surrounding Areas, 10,000 to 1,00,000 Sft High-end with good Heights.

**WANTED**

Urgently Required For Genuine Buyers Lands / Sites JD / JV Residential / Commercial, IT Parks / Industry / Warehouses / Star Hotels / Running, Schools / Colleges / Hospitals 1 to 100 Acres also Tenanted Property (ROI) 5 to 9 %, from M.G. Road, 77 Kms Radius.

CONTACT :
**MR. SEVENRAJ**
98450 20007
98457 17777
sevenraj@gmail.com



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that my client **1) Mr. Mariyappa** S/o Late Annayapa, Aged about 68 years, **2) Mrs. Padmavathi** W/o Mariyappa, Aged about 56 years, **3) Mrs. Bharathi .M** D/o Mariyappa, Aged about 39, **4) Mr. Chandrashekar .M** S/o Mariyappa, Aged about 36 Years, 5) Mr. ALEEM PASHA S/o Shamshuddeen, Aged about 48 years, **6) Mr. Naheem Pasha** S/o Shamshuddeen, Aged about 46 years, **7) Mr. Tajeem** S/o late Abdul Najeer, Aged about 51 years, **8) Mr. Rajappa @ Rajanna** S/o Late Annayappa, Aged about 60 Years, **9) Mrs. Lakshmamma** W/o Rajappa @ Rajanna, Aged about Years, **10) Mr. Narayanswamy** S/o Rajappa @ Rajanna, Aged about 38 years, **11) Mrs. Radha** D/o Rajappa @ Rajanna, Aged about 32 Years, **12) Mrs. Mala** D/o Rajappa @ Rajanna, Aged about 28 years, **13) Mr. A Gopal** S/o Late Annayappa, Aged about 58, **14) Mrs. Hemavathi** W/o A Gopal, Aged about 48 Years, **15) Mr. Jagadeesh** S/o A Gopal, Aged about 28 Years, **16) Mr. Kumari. Keerthi G** D/o A Gopal, Aged about 20 Years, **17) Mrs. Munithayamma** D/o Late Annayappa, Aged about 72 Years, **18) Mrs. Muniyamma** D/o Late Annayappa, Aged about 62 Years, and **19) Mrs. Krishnamma** D/o Late Annayappa, Aged about 58 Years. All are residing at Jaraganahalli Village, Kanakapura main Road, Bangalore, have brought to the notice of **(1) Mr. O. Manjunath** S/o Obaiah, Aged about 58 years, R/at No.22, Manjunath layout, Kanakanagara, Yelachenahalli, J.P. Nagar Post, Bangalore-560078. **(2) Mr. L. Manjunath** S/o lakshminarayanappa, Aged about 55 Years, R/at No.4, "SUMUKHA", Yelacchenahalli, Bangalore-560078, that all the documents executed and registered by my client such as Joint Development Agreement dated 03.05.2017, Registered vide Document No.BSK-1-01120-2017-18, BOOK-I, Stored Under C.D. No.BSKD401, Registered office of the Sub-Registrar Basavangudi (Banashankari), Bangalore, 2) General Power of Attorney dated 03.05.2017, registered Vide Document No.BSK-4-00089-2017-18, BOOK-4, Stored Under C.D. No.BSKD401, Registered office of the Sub-Registrar Basavangudi (Banashankari), Bangalore. 3) Sharing Agreement Dated 03.05.2017 and all other similar/ incidental agreements or documents in favour of these persons in respect of the lands described in the schedule hereunder, have all been cancelled/terminated and stand expressly revoked and annulled for all effects, intents and purposes.

Legal notices have been issued on my client's behalf in this regard to the aforesaid persons and duly received by them. With a view to reiterating and confirming the aforesaid facts, my clients are again formally issuing this Public Notice & keeping the parties named above/public at large duly informed of the fact that in view of the cancellation/ termination/ annulling of all the Joint Development Agreements, General Powers of Attorney, Sharing Agreement(s) and other documents executed by my clients the parties mentioned above have no manner of right title, claim, interest or any semblance of a right to any of the schedule lands. Any person (s) dealing with the above named company or its executives/ officers in respect of the schedule property shall be doing so at their cost, risk and consequence.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of land Situated at Kaggalipura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, land measuring in Sy No. 393, New Sy No. 393/1, consisting 1 Acre of land, Sy No. 393/2, measuring 25.08 Guntas, old Sy No. 393, New Sy No. 393/3, New Sy No. 393/12 measuring 6.04 Guntas conversion old Sy No. 393, New Sy no. 393/3 measuring 12.12 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No. 393, New Sy No. 393/4 measuring 25.08 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No. 393 New Sy No. 393/4, measuring 25.08 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No. 393, New Sy No. 393/5, measuring 25.08 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No.393, New Sy No. 393/6, measuring 25.08 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No.393, New Sy No. 393/7, measuring 03 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No.393, New Sy No. 393/8, measuring 03 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No.393, New Sy No. 393/9, measuring 03 Guntas, conversion Old Sy No.393, New Sy No. 393/11, measuring 6.08 Guntas, (Dated 06.09.2016, Bangalor D..C. Conveersion No. ALN/(S.U)R(K)/ 32/2014-15 Agricultural Converted for Residential Purpose) Total Measurement of the land 4 Acre 16.8 Guntas, which is bounded as follows: **East by :** Road, **West by :** Sy No.46, **North by:** Sy No. 393/10, **South by:** Sy No.46.

**T.V. Tajpeer Sab & Kashif Ahmed, Advocates,** No. 5, 1st Floor, H.M.S. & H.H.S Complex, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-560002.



**Indian Bank** इंडियन बैंक इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

**ZONAL OFFICE, BENGALURU**
4th Floor, East Wing, Raheja Towers MG Road, Bengaluru-560001.

**APPENDIX- IV-A" [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]**

**Sale Notice for sale of immovable properties**

**E-Auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical /constructive / Symbolic (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank (Secured Creditor), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Indian Bank from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The specific details of the properties intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

**BRANCH NAMES AND PROPERTIES**

**1 Name of the Branch: BTM Layout Branch, No.947, 16th Main, BTM Layout, 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076. Contact No.: 9449864205**

**1) Name of the Borrower: 1. Mr Lokesh B T (Borrower), S/o. Late Mr Boda Bandenahalli Thimmappa,** Residing at No.33/1 (II Floor, 1BHK), 24th Cross, Bangalore-560068. **2. Miss Paramita Biswas (Guarantor), D/o. Satyabrata Biswas,** FF-05, Prakruthi Elite Road, Off Dr. Vishnu Vardhan Road, Near VV Convention Hall, Channsandra Hall, Bangalore-560098. **3. Mr Lokesh B T (Borrower) S/o. Late Mr Boda Bandenahalli Thimmappa,** Flat No.FF 2 (2BHK), 1st Floor, "S V Residency" Site No.19, BBMP Khatha No.19/12, PID No.56-105-19/12, situated at 9th Main, Katriguppe, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560070.

**Outstanding Amount: Rs.44,78,255/- (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs seventy eight thousand and two hundred Fifty Five only)** (as on 06.01.2024 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 06.01.2024)

**Detailed description of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing site No 19, Khatha No 24/2, formed out of Sy no 24/2 of Katriguppe Village, presently within limits of BBMP and new BBMP bearing Municipal Khatha No 19/12, PID no 56-105-19/12, situated at 9th Main road, Katriguppe Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, BSK 3rd stage, Bangalore BBMP ward No 56 Ganesh Mandir, Measuring East to West 60 feet, North to South 30 feet in all measuring 1800 Sq ft and **bounded on the :** East by: Road, West by: Property bearing No.24/1, North by: Site No.20, South by: Site No.18

**Details/Description of property/Properties: (herein after to as Schedule B property)**

Apartment bearing No FF -2 2 BHK first floor in the building known as S.V. Residency with a super built up area 855 Sq Feet along with 160 Sq feet of undivided share title & interest in Over Schedule A property situated at 9th main road, Katriguppe Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, BSK 3rd stage, Bangalore BBMP ward No.56 Ganesh mandir and **bounded by :** East by: Lift/Stair case/Flat No.FF1, West by: Open to Sky, North by: Flat Entrance, South by: Open to Sky.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Encumbrances on property** | **Nil** |
| **Reserve Price** | **Rs.35,66,000/-** |
| **EMD Amount** | **Rs.3,56,600/-** |
| **Bid incremental amount** | **Rs.10,000/-** |
| **Property ID No.** | **IDIB50482772690** |

**2 Name of the Branch: Thirumenahalli Branch, KNS Institute of Technology, KNSIT Campus, Thirumenahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560064 Contact No.: 9449864144**

**1) Name of the Borrower: Mrs.Parvathi K & Mr.Shiv Rudra Swamy,** R/o.No.25, Muneeshwara. Layout, Chikkagollahalli Laxmipura, Bangalore-560091.

**Outstanding Amount: Rs.25,78,288/- (Rupees Twenty five lakhs seventy eight thousand two hundred eighty eight only )** (as on 05.01.2024) + Interest & Expenses.

**Detailed description of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of property / immovable property bearing southern Portion of Site No.56 Present Khatha no.984, Old Khatha No.63, Assement no.34/10, Kachohalli Village DasanpuraHobli, Bangalore North Taluk now coming in administrative jurdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike(BBMP)ward no 40-Mortgage to IBHL Construction - Resident measuring East to West 25 feet,North to South 40feet,Totally measuring 1000sq,ft and property being **bounded as follows:** East to West : 25 feet, North to South : 40 feet, Totally measuring 1000 sq feet **Bounded:** On the North by: Site No. 42; On the South by: Road; On the East by: Site No.55; On the West by: Others Property.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Encumbrances on property** | **NIL** |
| **Reserve Price** | **Rs.40,00,000/-** |
| **EMD Amount** | **Rs.4,00,000/-** |
| **Bid incremental amount** | **Rs.10,000/-** |
| **Property ID No.** | **IDIB3199628312** |

**2) Name of the Borrower: Vijay Kumar N & Savitha N,** R/o. No.36/156 13th Cross, 1 st Main Road, Ragvendra Layout, Near Venkateshwara Temple, Andrahalli, Bangalore-560091.

**Outstanding Amount: Rs.20,96,700/- (Rupees twenty lakhs ninty six thousand seven hundred only)** (as on 05.01.2024 ) + Interest & Expenses.

**Detailed description of the Property:** All that part and parcel of the immovable property bearing Southern Portion of Site No. 156, Kaneshumari No. 36/156, Katha No. 85, Andrahalli Village, Yeshavanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Now coming in Administrative Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Ward No. 40 measuring East to West: 40 feet North to South: 15 feet, **Totally measuring 600 sq feet Bounded:** On the North by: Site No Remaining Northern Portion of same Site; On the South by: Site No.155; On the East by: Road; On the West by: Site No. 147.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Encumbrances on property** | **NIL** |
| **Reserve Price** | **Rs.40,00,000/-** |
| **EMD Amount** | **Rs.4,00,000/-** |
| **Bid incremental amount** | **Rs.10,000/-** |
| **Property ID No.** | **IDIB3199628312** |

**3 Name of the Branch: Prashanth Nagar Branch, No.11, Nagarbhavi Main Road, Prashanth Nagar Circle, Bangalore-560079 Contact No.: 9449864131**

**1) Name of the Borrower: M/s. Garmentech Sewing Inc.( Prop.Mr.C Anjaneya) , Mr. C Anjaneya, S/o. Chikkahanumaiah** and **Mrs. Triveni W/o.C Anjaneya,** No.007, 2nd Cross Road, Andhrahalli Main Road, Magadi Road, Herohalli Village, Viswanidam post, Banaglore-560091.

**Outstanding Amount: Rs.14,46,214/-(Rupees Fourteen Lakhs forty six thousands two hundred fourteen Only)** (as on 06.01.2024 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 06.01.2024)

**Detailed description of the Property:** Property Situated at site No.007, Khatha No 161/3, formed in property assessment No 161/3 situated at Herohalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli,Bangalore North Taluk, presently comes under the limits of BBMP MEASURING East to West 15 feet and North to South 40 feet. **Property Boundary:** East: Site No.08, West: Western Portion of site No.07, North: Others Property, South: Road.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Encumbrances on property** | **NIL** |
| **Reserve Price** | **Rs.38,31,000/-** |
| **EMD Amount** | **Rs.3,83,100/-** |
| **Bid incremental amount** | **Rs.10,000/-** |
| **Property ID No.** | **IDIB865505928** |

**2) Name of the Borrower: Mr. L Harsha Vardhana S/o. H R Lakshmikantha,** Residence Address : No 405,65th Cross, Bhasyam Circle 5th Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560010, Property Address : MRB Meadows, Flat No.FF-111, First Floor, Jnanajyothi Nagar, Nagadevanahalli, Bangalore-560056 and **Mrs. L Swathi Harsha Vardhana W/o. L Harshavardhana,** Residence Address: C/o. Mr Halappa A N, 2nd Main Road, 4th Cross, JC Layout, Harihara, Davanagere, Karnataka-577601, Property Address MRB Meadows, Flat No.FF-111, First Floor, Jnanajyothi Nagar, Nagadevanahalli, Bangalore-560056.

**Outstanding Amount: Rs.71,62,159/- (Rupees Seventy One Lakhs Sixty Two thousand One hundred Fifty Nine Only)** (as on 06.01.2024 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 06.01.2024)

**Detailed description of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing residential Apartment/Flat bearing unit FF-F11 situated in the First floor of the apartment building known as MRB MEADOWS, having super built up are of 1580 sq.feet constructed on the total property bearing site no.s 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 8 formed in converted for residential purposes as per Order No.ALN(S)SR(KEM)54/2009-10 dated 16.12.2011 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District having BBMP Khatha No.2583/1/5/3/1, situated at Nagadevanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk with one car parking Space bearing No. FF-FF11 in the basement/stilt floor and together with 486 sq.feet undivided share in the total property. **Property Boundary:** East By: Site Nos.9 and 10, West By: Private Property, North By: Road, South By: Road.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Encumbrances on property** | **NIL** |
| **Reserve Price** | **Rs.61,32,000/-** |
| **EMD Amount** | **Rs.6,13,200/-** |
| **Bid incremental amount** | **Rs.10,000/-** |
| **Property ID No.** | **IDIB6598636291** |

**Date & Time of E-Auction: 24.01.2024 from 11.00 A.M to 4.00 PM**

Bidders are advised to visit the website **(www.mstcecommerce.com)** of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd, please contact **ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com** and for EMD status please contact **ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com.**

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: **https://ibapi.in** and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number **'18001025026' and '011-41106131'.**

Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with **https://ibapi.in** and **www.mstcecommerce.com**

**Date: 06.01.2024, Place: Bangalore** **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Indian Bank**



**KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD**
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, FAX No. 0471-2945647),
E-mail : oncocare@kmscl.kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/ED/40/2023 Date : 05.01.2024

**E- TENDER NOTICE**

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers/ loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the Procurement of Anti Cancer Drugs for the year 2024-25.

| Sl. No. | Tender No. and Date | Category | No. of items |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | KMSCL/ED/ACD/RC/2024/001 dtd. 05.01.2024 | Anti Cancer Drugs | 127 |

The last date and time of online uploading of tender will be 22.01.2024, 5.00 pm. The date and time of opening of Technical bid will be 25.01.2024 11.00 am. Tender shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.** **(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR** (Tender Inviting Authority)



YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE
Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



All the news.
In just a click.
Log to www.newindianexpress.com
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

₹4,800 CR have been infused by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in Indian equities in first week of January.

# UPI is now all set to revolutionise payments in stock market

UPI for secondary market will change the way investors buy shares as they can block the amount in bank accounts instead of transferring it to broker's account

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @New Delhi

THE Unified Payment Interface (UPI), the digital payment system built by the government of India, is now ready to revolutionise the payment system in the Indian stock market.

The National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) in collaboration with brokerage firms and clearing houses has launched the beta phase of 'UPI for Secondary Market' from 1 January.

UPI for Secondary market is an ASBA (Application Supported by Blocked Amount) like service, where an investor can block their amount used for buying stocks in the secondary market in their bank accounts instead of transferring it to the broker's account. The amount will only be debited by the Clearing Corporations upon trade confirmation during settlement. Clearing Corporations will directly process payouts to these clients on a T+1 basis.

Currently, ASBA facility is only limited for buying shares from the primary market, that is, in applying for IPOs. The UPI-enabled ASBA facility will change the way investors buy stocks in the secondary market.

UPI is now touching every aspect of people's lives. It is no longer limited to payments to grocery stores, roadside vegetable vendors or for Uber taxi rides. UPI is growing bigger and better with every passing day. Here's a reminder to people what UPI can do and where all it can be used apart from buying stocks in the secondary market:

**UPI payments through credit card:** Earlier, UPI payments could be linked to bank accounts, prepaid wallets, overdraft facility. Last year, UPI facilitated payments through credit cards. Several public sector and private banks have already launched this facility on RuPay credit cards. The functionality can be availed through registering the credit card with third party UPI apps. Cardholders can enroll their active primary cards on UPI and make payments to merchants (P2M transactions) using their credit cards. This facility is free for customers. The linking of RuPay credit cards to UPI will ensure that customers will no longer have to carry their credit cards with them at all times for payments.

Recently, IndusInd Bank became the first bank in the country to integrate UPI functionality with a Corporate Credit Card. In a press statement, the bank said: "IndusInd Bank eSvarna credit cardholders can look forward to a luxurious travel experience, including complimentary lounge access and fuel surcharge waiver. Corporate travellers can receive the added benefit of comprehensive travel insurance coverage and an exclusive rewards program meticulously crafted for corporate entities, which makes this credit card a valuable financial solution for various business transactions."

**Enhanced UPI transaction limit for specified categories:** The RBI recently enhanced the UPI transaction limit for payment to hospitals and educational institutions from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per transaction.

This, according to the central bank, will help the consumers to make UPI payments of higher amounts for education and healthcare purposes. For normal UPI the transaction limit is up to ₹1 lakh per transaction. For few specific categories of transaction in UPI like capital markets, collections, insurance, foreign inward remittances the transaction limit is up to ₹2 lakh and for Initial Public Offering and retail direct scheme the limit is up to ₹5 lakh per transaction.

**Bringing Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI Wallets) to UPI ecosystem:** Last year, the RBI allowed the PPI wallets to be part of the interoperable UPI ecosystem. With this addition to UPI, customers now have the choice of using any bank accounts, RuPay Credit card and prepaid wallets on UPI enabled apps. Payments made from prepaid wallets via UPI apps are free of cost. Though there are interchange charges applicable only for the PPI merchant transactions.

**NRIs can use UPI for domestic transactions:** NRIs with international numbers can do UPI transactions in India. NRIs through their NRE/NRO accounts can make UPI payments even through their international mobile numbers. This was allowed through a circular in January 2023. However, such transactions must follow all the FEMA (Foreign Exchange Management Act) and Anti-money laundering regulations.

**UPI Lite and Lite X:** This payment solution allows low value transactions up to ₹500 without utilising a Remitter bank's core banking systems in real-time. These payments can be made without the user having to key in the PIN.

With UPI Lite X, one can make payments even in places with bad connectivity and poor networks. These payments can be made without the need of an internet connection on the payers or the recipient's phone.

## UPI BENEFITS

NPCI and brokerage firms launched the beta phase of UPI for secondary market from Jan 1

The UPI-enabled ASBA facility will change the way investors buy stocks in the stock market

Earlier, UPI payments could be linked to bank accounts, prepaid wallets and overdraft facility

Recently, IndusInd Bank became the first bank in the country to integrate UPI functionality with a Corporate Credit Card

The RBI has enhanced the UPI transaction limit for payment to hospitals and educational institutions from Rs 1 L to Rs 5 L.

NRIs with international nos can do UPI transactions in India. This was allowed through a circular in Jan 2023

MONEY MATTERS

# HOW MUCH MONEY IS ENOUGH TO BE HAPPY

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
*(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)*

THE pursuit of happiness is a fundamental right. In a democracy, a limit cannot be imposed on individuals in their right to pursue happiness. Money plays a significant role in that for most people.

If you go by a new survey of over 2,000 American adults published last week, they just found an answer to the question of how much money they need in the bank to be happy. An average American believes $1.2 million (₹10 crore) is enough to make you happy. It is just about the sum you need to follow your passion and not worry about a routine life. You need not have a 9 am to 6 pm job and do things you love. That also entails not worrying about paying monthly bills or spending more than expected on wants.

Empower, an American financial services firm, found in the survey that six in ten Americans believe money can buy happiness. Most are Millennials and Gen Z or those born in the 80s and beyond. Their idea of the specific amount varies.

The younger lot think they need more, while the older people are happy with less. That is a natural function of the perception of inflation. The young look at the present situation and fear inflation.

If an average American can be happy with that money, those living in India can be a little more happy with that amount (₹10 crore) or live with a lot less to get there. If you live in a city in India, the cost of living is much cheaper than that of your American counterpart. For example, your average breakfast cost outside your home in India is a fraction of what you would pay in an American city. It is a no-brainer that the cost of making any consumer good in India is less than that in the rich world.

Happiness is not confined to you, making your daily subsistence comfortable. It involves possessing those things in life that bring comfort. A lot of migration overseas is due to a better quality of life. In countries like Western Europe or Scandinavia, you pay half of your income as tax in your working years. However, the government provides you with a universal basic income and quality healthcare on retirement.

In India, you must do much more to secure your financial future. There is no concept of a universal basic income. Quality healthcare is available to those with money for now. The government is allocating more resources, but India's massive population will always leave people out of the equation.

That means expectations in India could vary for the right amount of money to make you happy. It also depends on where you live in India. If you go by the standard thumb rule of cost of living, you would probably need ₹2.5 crore for the same level of happiness in India. That is assuming you do not have monthly liabilities like loan EMIs.

You can quickly generate a 9-10% return on that yearly. That means the sweet spot in India could be about ₹24 lakh per annum or ₹2 lakh a month. That could go up every year with inflation.

You cannot use all of the money for living life and spending. Even when you get to that stage, you must continue investing to counter inflation. That means your monthly expenses must be much less than ₹2 lakh.

You are in a good place if you do not pay for your home when you get there. The amount of ₹2 lakh per month should be enough for a comfortable middle-class life in a city in India. But then, our life does not stop at needs. There are wants and desires. You need more than ₹2 lakh a month for those looking for more comfort.

If your work is already your passion, you are already in a sweet spot. If that is not the case, then money is a parameter for you. If you are at a stage where you are confident of generating a steady income from your savings, it is time for you to follow your passions.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

MONEY-WISE

# SPOTLIGHT ON DIFFERENT ASSET CLASSES

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
*Head of LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com*
*(Views expressed here are personal)*

THE most popular asset class in India, even today remains debt. With the increase in bank interest rates in recent times, the traditional avenue of Bank Fixed Deposits has witnessed a revival of sorts and fixed income investors have rushed in to lock in high interest yielding deposits for longer tenures.

There is also concern among these investors that at some point, interest rate cuts will commence and trigger a sharp fall in bank interest rates. That bank interest rates are a function of the inflation rate and it is important always to look at interest rates as net of inflation is often missed by investors.

Debt mutual funds whose USP was its tax arbitrage over its alternatives took a hard blow in the last Union Budget which withdrew its tax advantage.

Simply put, the mutual fund industry will need to recalibrate to make their debt mutual fund holdings more palatable to investors. Even the insurance industry took a beating in the earlier Budget when its tax free tag for premium payments in excess of ₹2.5 lakh, was withdrawn. There is also a plethora of traditional savings offerings from the government, albeit with investment caps which still remain popular among investors.

Yet another popular sub-asset class in India especially, is Gold. With gold prices rising to new highs, there are concerns of it entering a price bubble territory. However, the ongoing hostilities in some parts of the world as well as aggressive posturing by nations with powerful armies, ensures that gold as the asset class of last recourse remains in demand.

There is still some smart money accumulating the yellow metal in its more liquid investment forms via Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) as well as the mutual fund route.

It continues to remain a hedge alongside large equity holdings to cushion portfolios in the event of a vertical fall in equities. Though non-traditional, an emerging asset class that many young people are gravitating towards is Crypto-currencies. While I don't claim expertise in cryptocurrencies, its acceptance as legal tender in some parts of the world suggests that the concept could grow, subject to regulatory approval. Given its extreme volatility though, tread carefully till then.

The highest profile, even if somewhat minimally invested, traditional asset class in India remains Equity. The general consensus or shall we say apprehension is that a correction is round the corner. It may be so and those who believe it would do well to seek a switch to either safer debt instruments or equity offerings carrying lower risk by employing an inbuilt hedge mechanism.

One can of course, also always take the view that historically most corrections have almost inevitably been followed by a rebound and hence, if one has no pressing near term need for the invested funds, stay invested.

# 29,273 bogus firms involved in ₹44,015 crore tax evasion

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @Bengaluru

A total of 29,273 bogus firms involved in suspected Input Tax Credit (ITC) evasion of ₹44,015 crore have been detected, according to the finance ministry. Since May 2023, a special drive against fake registrations has been initiated across the country.

To curb frauds in Goods and Services Tax (GST) and increase compliance, the GST formations, under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and the State/UT Governments, across the country are carrying out a focused drive on the issue of non-existent or bogus registrations and issuance of fake invoices without any underlying supply of goods and services.

According to the finance ministry, this initiation has saved ₹4,646 crore, of which ₹3,802 crore is by blocking ITC and ₹844 crore is by way of recovery. So far, 121 arrests have been made in the cases. In the quarter ended December 2023, 4,153 bogus firms that involved suspected ITC evasion of around ₹12,036 crore were detected. About 2,358 of these bogus firms were detected by the Central GST Authorities. This has protected revenue of ₹1,317 crore, of which ₹319 crore has been realised and ₹997 crore has been protected by blocking ITC, the ministry said.

About 483 bogus firms were detected in Delhi, 424 in Haryana, 926 in Maharashtra, 507 in Rajasthan, 223 bogus firms in Karnataka were detected during the quarter ended December 2023.

Pilot projects of biometric based Aadhaar authentication at the time of registration have been launched in the States of Gujarat, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh, the ministry added.

# IIFCL plans to garner ₹2,000 crore via maiden green bonds in 6 months

PTI @ New Delhi

India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL) is planning to raise ₹2,000 crore through its maiden green bonds in the next six months to fund sustainable projects.

It could be a mix of both domestic and foreign issuances, depending on the cost of funds, IIFCL managing director P R Jaishankar said.

The state-owned infrastructure financier said it is exploring options of yen-denominated green bonds, he said, adding, it may happen in this quarter or the first quarter of the next financial year. "Sustainable green bonds are one of our major lookouts and yen is one major currency that we are considering, and we are also looking at other currencies, but it will all depend on how cost-effective it is, including the hedging cost and the overall cost of borrowings," he said.

"If the domestic environment gives us a better option then we will go with domestic. If yen gives a better return, we will go with yen." he said. This is part of the company's aim to diversify its borrowing portfolio and enhance the share of the green projects in the portfolio mix.

Last week, State Bank of India (SBI) raised USD 250 million (about ₹2,000 crore) through the issuance of green bonds maturing in 2028 via private placement. From the performance perspective, he said the company has been consistent both on topline and bottomline parameters. He expects the FY24 profit to cross ₹1,500 crore. IIFCL reported a two-fold jump in standalone net profit at ₹ 1,076 crore in FY23 aided by an increase in lending and reduction of bad loans. The infra lender posted record sanctions and disbursements at ₹29,171 crore and ₹13,826 crore, respectively. Since its inception, the company has given ₹2.5 lakh crore loans to 750 infra projects. As of December 2023, the company has earned a profit of ₹1,189 crore with loan sanctions of ₹30,315 crore, exceeding the figures of last fiscal in just three quarters. Given the demand so far, he said, the loan sanction amount would cross ₹40,000 crore by March 2024.

He emphasised on the role that IIFCL is set to play to fund the next phase of infrastructure growth story and the slew of reforms needed to take the infrastructure sector to the next level.

# Payout by life insurers moderates in FY23

PTI @ New Delhi

Payout by life insurance companies declined by about ₹6,000 crore during 2022-23 because of lesser number of death claims as compared to previous financial year which was impacted by COVID-19.

The life insurance industry paid a total benefit of ₹4.96 lakh crore in 2022-23 as compared to ₹5.02 lakh crore in FY22, according to the latest annual report released by sector regulator IRDAI.

During FY22, the year hit by COVID-19 wave, the insurance companies paid ₹60,821.86 crore as death claims. This came down by ₹19,000 crore to ₹41,457 crore in 2022-23.

The benefits paid on account of surrenders/withdrawals increased by 25.62% to 1.98 lakh crore in 2022-23, of which public sector insurers accounted for 56.27 %.

During the year, out of the total surrender benefits, it said, benefits for ULIP (unit-linked insurance plans) accounted for 62.51% for private insurers and 1.56% for state-owned life insurers.

In case of individual life insurance business, during the year 2022-23, out of the 10.76 lakh total death claims, the life insurance companies paid 10.60 lakh death claims, with a total benefit amount of ₹28,611 crore, the annual report said.

The number of claims repudiated was 10,822 for an amount of ₹1,026 crore and the number of claims rejected was 4,340 for an amount of ₹24 crore, it said. The claims pending at the end of the year were 833 for ₹350 crore, it said, adding, the claim settlement ratio of public sector insurers was 98.52% as at March 31, 2023 compared to 98.74% as at March 31, 2022.

## Nadal withdraws from Australian Open

Rafael Nadal has withdrawn from the Australian Open with an injury after playing just one tournament in his comeback from 12 months on the sidelines. Nadal said he had concerns over his surgically repaired hip after needing a medical timeout in the third set of his Brisbane International quarterfinal loss to Jordan Thompson on Friday.

# Back to the future for India

Rohit & Kohli return to the shortest format for the first time since the 2022 T20 World Cup

**GOMESH S** @ Chennai

WHEN Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli walked off the field at the Adelaide Oval after losing to England in the 2022 T20 World Cup semifinal, if you had thought that could be it for them in T20Is, you would not have been mistaken. Rohit was 35, Kohli was 34 and they had an ODI World Cup and World Test Championship coming.

What more, the next generation had been pushing for a chance in the Indian Premier League with a captain waiting in Hardik Pandya. That the BCCI and selectors went with it in the New Zealand tour immediately after the T20 WC, and the bilateral series that followed indicated that India are moving on, entering a transition in the T20I format with youngsters getting opportunities. And they did make the most of it.

Since the last T20 World Cup, Suryakumar Yadav still tops the run-getter list, but Ruturaj Gaikwad (average 60 and strike rate 147.17), Yashasvi Jaiswal (avg 33 and SR 159.25), Shubman Gill (avg 26 and SR 145.11) Tilak Varma (avg 34.44 and SR 141.55) and Rinku Singh (avg 65.5 and 180.68 SR) have been the show stealers. It seemed like India are preparing a new T20I team that had a fresh outlook with a proactive batting line-up.

However, 14 months, 25 T20Is, and eight series later, Rohit and Kohli are all set to make a comeback in the shortest format for the three T20Is against Afghanistan that is to be played from January 11. Now, it does not come as a shock as the talks of the duo playing T20Is again began shortly after India lost to Australia in the ODI World Cup final. While Rohit, on multiple occasions, indicated that there will be answers soon for the question of whether he is keen to play the T20 World Cup, Kohli had kept mum throughout.

**SQUAD:** Rohit (Captain), Gill, Jaiswal, Kohli, Tilak, Rinku, Jitesh (wk), Sanju (wk), Dube, Washington, Axar, Bishnoi, Kuldeep, Arshdeep, Avesh, Mukesh.

While there were multiple arguments on either side of the spectrum as to whether or not Rohit and Kohli should be included there could be various factors as to why the selectors have decided to lean on the side of playing both. For starters, in the time since the ODI World Cup ended, Pandya has been out of action with injury, SKY, who led the team against Australia and SA, suffered an ankle injury and is still recovering, and so is Gaikwad. Which means, going into the series India would have had to name their fourth captain since Rohit's last T20I after Pandya, Bumrah and SKY. Hardik — who has replaced Rohit as Mumbai Indians captain — is expected to return to action in the IPL, and Bumrah, along with Mohammed Siraj who is rested, is going to play five Tests before entering the IPL meaning there is a void at the top (read captaincy). And that is not a good sign for a side with an abundant pool of players and resources in the lead up to a global event. Which means, having Rohit at the top, and as a captain, seems to be the safer option, especially after the way he batted in the ODI World Cup.

Now, what this means to the current squad is that Rohit could open with Jaiswal with Kohli to follow at No. 3. Then comes Tilak, Rinku and Jitesh Sharma in the middle. With Axar Patel being a starter, it would come down to Ravi Bishnoi or Washington Sundar and the pace attack. Gill is still waiting if one hadn't noticed. And, what would happen when Pandya and SKY come back? Who will make space? Will they make Rohit and Kohli open with SKY and Pandya coming in for Tilak and Jaiswal? Or will Jaiswal remain at top and Rinku makes way? Where does Jitesh fit in with Sanju Samson making the cut? Is there room for KL Rahul and Rishabh Pant if they do well in the IPL? One could keep going, but the press release does not have any answers.

While the squad they have named works well for the Afghanistan series, at the moment, there are more questions than answers about the Indian T20I team.

# 300 & counting: Perry, the athlete, superstar & human

**KALYANI MANGALE** @ Chennai

ELLYSE Perry was once asked what she would like to be remembered as — the footballer or the cricketer. "Perry the Person, hopefully," came the reply from her. With the Australian legend playing in her 300th international fixture for her country at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai on Sunday, she has added another accolade to her illustrious career. Her individual on-field success has paralleled one of the most dominant eras of arguably one of the most dominant teams the game has ever seen. However, glimpses of her generosity have shown the person behind all the laurels she has received.

Take this for example. Ahead of the Bushfire Appeal, a charity T10 match to raise funds for those affected by the devastating bushfires of 2019-20 in Australia, Perry requested Indian legend Sachin Tendulkar to face an over from her to raise additional money for the cause. Tendulkar, who had retired from international cricket in 2013, agreed. On the day of the match, amongst the biggest fanfare at the Junction Oval in Melbourne, Tendulkar faced Perry wearing a canary yellow kit as teammates and a few firefighters joined in the fielding.

*Fox Cricket* commentator Mark Howard gave words to what all the fans were thinking. "We are in the middle of the Junction Oval, watching Ellyse Perry bowl to Sachin Tendulkar. On what planet does that happen." However, after bowling four balls, Perry did something that even shocked the commentators. For the final two balls of the over, Perry handed it to Annabel Sutherland, who had made her international debut a few days earlier. "I passed it to Belsey (Sutherland) as a youth of today's policy. I think it might make her day," Perry told the commentators. Nervous Sutherland bowled a full toss to start with, and the magnificent over for fans across the world ended with Tendulkar punching the ball down the ground. Perry could have easily bowled every single delivery, but she chose to make someone else's day. She was generous enough to let someone be part of the bigger stage. "I will remember that moment for the rest of my life," Sutherland told the media later.

A year later, in 2021, India visited Australia for a multi-format tour that included a day-night Test. Sutherland along with Stella Campbell, Georgia Wareham, and Darcie Brown received their baggy green caps in the same Test. On day three, with the dismissal of Pooja Vastrakar, Perry achieved her 300th international wicket. She joined the prestigious list of Jhulan Goswami and Katherine Brunt who have 300+ wickets in international cricket. As the tradition goes, umpire Phillip Gillespie handed the match ball to wicketkeeper Alyssa Healy to hand it over to Perry.

Healy later revealed what Perry did: "When Phil the umpire threw me the ball at the end of the innings I said 'Pez do you want it? It was your 300th wicket.' But she said 'Give it to Stella. It was her first.'" That's who Perry is. A human with exceptional sporting abilities unmatched by any and a heart of gold. Her teammates may have closely experienced this generosity, but stories such as these make her one of the most beloved athletes in the world. Sheer numbers of her achievements make her one of the greatest to ever play the game.

Curiosity about how she has been doing it over these years will always remain even after almost 17 years of international career, but moments like these make her human. And that is how she would want to be remembered. Perry — the human.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Ellyse Perry scored an unbeaten 21-ball 34 to help Australia beat India in her 300th international appearance. With the win, Australia level the series 1-1 | SPORTZPICS

**BRIEF SCORES**

India 130/8 in 20 ovs (Deepti Sharma 30; Georgia Wareham 2/17, Annabel Sutherland 2/18) lost to Australia 133/4 in 19 ovs (Ellyse Perry 34 n.o; Deepti Sharma 2/22)

# Oly qualifiers: Time for pistol shooters to step up

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ Chennai

INDIAN shooters have won as many as 13 quotas for the Paris Olympics so far and they'll have an opportunity to add to the tally during the Asian Championship (rifle/pistol) in Jakarta, Indonesia. The continental event, which begins on Monday, will offer 16 Olympic quotas in total — two each in all the different rifle and pistol events.

Given that the country's shooters from the rifle section have already fetched the maximum number of quotas (eight), they'll most be vying for pride and ranking points. The onus will be on pistol shooters, who have just won three quotas (out of a possible eight) so far. So the focus will be on the likes of Rhythm Sangwan, **Esha Singh**, Arjun Singh Cheema and Vijayveer Sidhu, to name a few.

The first day of the competition will witness the likes of Arjun, Rhythm and Esha enter the range with the 10m air pistol (men and women) competitions taking place. Rhythm had narrowly missed out on a spot in the finals during the last Olympic qualification event in Changwon, Korea last year. The story is similar for Esha, who won a silver medal during the Asian Games in this particular event. Both of them have shown they have the minerals in their game to post big scores and they'll be eager to secure the quota for India. It's a big possibility given that they will also be taking part in the women's 25m pistol event, where the former has a world record (qualification world record) to her name. "They have all been shooting well in training. The scores are good, now they have to just execute tomorrow (Monday). We are very positive," Samaresh Jung, national pistol coach, said.

Quota winners from rifle section, Tilottama Sen and Shriyanka Sadangi, will be also be present but they won't be vying for medals. They'll just be taking for ranking points.

Olympians Gurpreet Singh (men's 25m rapid fire pistol) and Anjum Moudgil (women's 50m rifle 3 positions) will be also looking to use their experience and challenge for the medals.

As many as 385 athletes from 26 countries will be assembling at the Senayan Shooting Range for 256 medals (84 gold, 84 silver and 88 bronze medals), besides the Paris quotas. "It's an old school range and our shooters have settled down pretty comfortably. It's a competitive field as the stakes are high, but we expect some success," said Pierre Beauchamp, India's high performance director.

This is the second-last qualification event for rifle and pistol shooters.

# Any WFI event is unsanctioned, unrecognised: Sports ministry

**FIROZ MIRZA** @ Chennai

SPORTS MINISTRY on Sunday issued a letter to the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president and other elected members saying that any tournament organised by them will be treated as unsanctioned and unrecognised. The letter was apparently issued in response to a circular issued by the WFI chief Sanjay Kumar Singh wherein he announced that the senior national championship 2023 will be held in Pune from January 29 to 31.

Citing an order dated December 24, 2023, the letter said that the ministry has instructed the newly-elected executive committee of the WFI to abstain from administering and managing the day-to-day activities of the federation with immediate effect until further orders. The letter also said that the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has vide order dated 27.12.2023 appointed an ad-hoc committee, which has been tasked in the interim with overseeing and supervising WFI's operations, including, inter alia, the responsibility of scheduling and hosting competitions.

The letter has been copied to president/secretary general of affiliated state/UT units of the WFI apart from the IOA president, ad-hoc committee chairman and director general of Sports Authority of India. One of the office-bearers of a state unit confirmed that he received the letter which clearly says that a team from his state should not be sent to the tournament scheduled in Pune. "As per this Ministry's order dated 24.12.2023, you have no authority to issue such a Circular or to use the letterhead of the Wrestling Federation of India wherein you claim affiliation of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. You must immediately cease and desist using the letterhead of the Wrestling Federation of India for such prohibited purposes and using the name, logos and insignia of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India in violation of the provisions of the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011(Sports Code) and the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950," read the letter.

It further said, "Be informed that, any championships or competitions organized by you — the suspended Executive Committee members of the WFI — will be treated as unsanctioned and unrecognized competitions. Certificates of participation and medals won in championships conducted by the WFI will be of no consequence and will not be considered for eligibility under any scheme of the government or appointment to government jobs/to get admission in school and colleges under sports quota, sports awards, etc. and participants and prospective participants are hereby forewarned of the same."

The ministry, instead, through the letter insisted the senior national championship announced by the ad-hoc committee in Jaipur from February 2 to 5 is the recognised event.

"It's clearly a pressure tactic being applied by the ministry as now it is forcing state units to send teams for the tournament being organised by the ad-hoc committee. How can the ministry do it?," a president of a state unit told this daily. A few office-bearers of other state units echoed the sentiments and put up a defiant face saying they would send the teams for the Pune tournament.

The development may further widen the gap between the ministry, ad-hoc panel and WFI which in turn could cause more damage to the country's wrestlers.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

# De Bruyne back as City post 5-0 win

**AGENCIES** @ London

KEVIN DE BRUYNE made his long-awaited return for Manchester City as the FA Cup holders thrashed Huddersfield 5-0 in the third round on Sunday.

Belgium midfielder De Bruyne had been sidelined since tearing his hamstring during City's Premier League opener against Burnley in August.

He finally got back in action as a 57th minute substitute in City's emphatic victory over the Championship strugglers at the Etihad Stadium.

Chants of 'Oh Kevin De Bruyne' echoed around the stands when the 32-year-old replaced Julian Alvarez.

Pep Guardiola's side were leading by goals from Phil Foden and Alvarez when De Bruyne was introduced.

De Bruyne's arrival kept the momentum going as City netted three more times through Ben Jackson's own goal, another Foden effort and a Jeremy Doku strike on his return from injury as a second half substitute. Fittingly, Doku's goal was set up by a deft lofted pass from De Bruyne. City have stayed afloat without De Bruyne, but his world-class quality in midfield will be a key factor in their bid to retain the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup. **FA Cup Results (Rd 3):** West Ham **1-1** Bristol City; Nottm Forest **2-2** Blackpool; Luton **0-0** Bolton; Peterborough **0-3** Leeds; Shrewsbury **0-1** Wrexham; West Brom **4-1** Aldershot Town; Man City **5-0** Huddersfield; Arsenal **0-2** Liverpool.

Man City's Phil Foden scored a double against Huddersfield Town | AFP

**EXPRESS READ**

### Dakar Rally: Brabec 2nd after Stage 1

AL-ULA (SAUDI ARABIA): Monster Energy Honda Team's Ricky Brabec used all his experience to take second spot after Stage 1 of the Dakar Rally. The 414 km special was ridden around an exhilarating environment of old volcanos and lava slabs as riders made their way from AlUla to the next bivouac at Al Henakiyah.

### Germany beat Poland to win United Cup

SYDNEY: Alexander Zverev saved two match points in a gruelling three-set win over Hubert Hurkacz to help Germany upset Poland and clinch a maiden United Cup title in Sydney. He kept the tie alive with his never-say-die 6-7 (3), 7-6 (6), 6-4 victory after Iga Swiatek had swept past Angelique Kerber 6-3, 6-0.

### Kho kho: Mumbai Khiladis record second win

CUTTACK: Mumbai Khiladis recorded their second win of Ultimate Kho Kho Season 2, downing Rajasthan Warriors 29-27 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack on Sunday. A see-saw match, which kept alternating in favour of either side, was finally secured by a brilliant defensive display by Khiladis in the final turn.

# *Pujara smashes 17th first-class double hundred to put Saurashtra in command*

**ENS/AGENCIES**

CHETESHWAR Pujara showed his insatiable hunger for runs with his 17th double hundred in first-class cricket before Prerak Mankad's all-round show put Saurashtra in command of their Ranji Trophy opener against Jharkhand on Sunday.

Pujrara, unbeaten on 157 overnight, ended with 243 not out off 356 balls as Saurashtra declared their first innings at 578 for four in response to Jharkhand's 142 all in the first innings, gaining a massive lead of 436 runs. The declaration came after Mankad (104 not out off 176) completed his second first-class hundred. Jharkhand openers Kumar Deobrat (74 not out off 130) and Nazim Siddique (45 off 51) batted with a lot more purpose in the second innings but twin strikes from medium pacer Mankad left them at 140 for two at stumps on day three. Jharkhand still trail Saurashtra by 296 runs.

Meanwhile, Prabhsimran Singh's aggressive century helped Punjab find some late fight against Karnataka and post 238 for three in their second innings. Prabhsimran made an even hundred off 146 balls with 17 boundaries, and he received wonderful support from his opening partner Abhishek Sharma (91, 123 balls, 9x4,3x6). Prabhsimran and Sharma milked 192 runs in just 44.3 overs as Punjab wiped out a considerable chunk from the 362-run big first innings lead they conceded. However, Punjab still trail by 124 runs. Earlier, Karnataka, resuming from their overnight 461 for 6, declared their first innings at 514 for eight. Prabhsimran deserved wholesome praise for batting without fear in a crunch situation as he peppered the off-side region with powerful shots, making 62 runs through long-off, third man and point regions.

At Valsad, fifties by Manan Hingrajia (52), Umang Kumar (89, 148 balls) and Ripal Patel (81, 71 balls) assisted Gujarat to post a daunting target of 299 against Tamil Nadu at Valsad. Gujarat recovered from a shaky 38 for three to post a healthy 312 in their second innings. In their second essay, TN have been reduced to 32 for two. In Alapuzha, skipper Aryan Juyal struck a fine century to complement the bowlers as Uttar Pradesh extended their lead by 278 runs against Kerala. Resuming at 220 for six, Kerala could add just 23 runs before being shot out for 243, handing Uttar Pradesh a 59-run lead. Pacer Ankit Rajpoot (5/64) claimed the remaining four wickets to seize a fifer. In their second innings, Uttar Pradesh were off to a great start with Juyal (115*) and Samarth Singh (43) sharing an 89-run opening partnership.

In another Group B tie in Visakhapatnam, Ricky Bhui (107) hit an unbeaten hundred to lead Andhra Pradesh's fightback against Bengal, taking the team to 339 for six. Resuming the day on 119 for 3, Andhra lost only three wickets, with Bhui and captain Hanuma Vihari (51) engaging in an 87-run stand for the fourth wicket.

**SELECT SCORES**

**At Hubballi:** Punjab: 15 & 238/3 in 68 ovs (Prabhsimran Singh 100, Abhishek Sharma 91) vs Karnataka 514/8 decl in 140 ovs (Devdutt Padikkal 193, Manish Pandey 118, S Sharath 76; Arshdeep Singh 3/92); **At Valsad:** Gujarat 236 & 312 in 84 ovs (Ripal Patel 81, Umang Kumar 89, Manan Hingrajia 52; Sai Kishore 4/53, Sandeep Warrier 3/51) vs Tamil Nadu 250 & 32/2 in 15 ovs; **At Rajkot:** Jharkhand 142 & 140/2 in 45 ovs (Kumar Deobrat 74 batting) vs Saurashtra 578/4 in 156 ovs (Cheteshwar Pujara 243 n.o, Prerak Mankad 104 n.o); At Alapuzha: Uttar Pradesh 302 & 219/1 in 62 ovs (Aryan Juyal 115 batting) vs Kerala 243 in 74 ovs (Vishnu Vinod 74, Ankit Rajput 5/64); **At New Delhi:** Delhi 148 & 126/8 in 40 ovs (Lakshay 24; Abin Mathew 4/30) vs Pondicherry 244 in 63.3 ovs (Paras Ratnaparkhe 60, Krishna 44); **At Visakhapatnam:** Bengal 409 in 126.2 ovs (Anustup Majumdar 125; A Lalith Mohan 4/134) vs Andhra 339/6 in 133 ovs (Ricky Bhui 107 batting, Hanuma Vihari 51).

UPCOMING EXAMINATIONS

| ICAR TECHNICIAN | CBSE CTET | JEE MAIN |
|---|---|---|
| Date: January 8, 2024 | Date: January 21, 2024 | Date: January 24 to February 1, 2024 |



As the year commences, let's delve into the depths of learning and ask ourselves: Do we understand how to learn? Do we grasp the intricacies of this skill? Many students navigate their educational journey without a clear compass. Thus, in the spirit of a fresh start, **Mrittika Banerjee** reached out to experts and toppers to delve into the exploration of learning how to learn. Over the course of this month, every Monday, let's find out how we can revolutionise our learning experience

WISDOM FROM THE PAST

**There's no miracle people. It just happens they got interested in this thing and they learned all this stuff. There's just people**
— Richard Feynman, Nobel Prize-winning physicist who devised the Feynman Technique

**This is where the Law of Serendipity comes to play: Lady Luck favours the one who tries**
— Barbara Oakley, author of the book, Learning How to Learn

**We focused more on practical education. For example, students are taught not to eat junk food at school but they would still eat these at the school canteen, this isn't what learning is. Another emphasis was laid on playful education or playful learning environment**
— Agastya Jaiswal, Young Prodigy

**Shift your mindset – you cannot simply memorise or retain; it's okay, but you must consistently keep trying and not lose hope**
— Dr Anuj Pachhel, Medical Professional and Productivity YouTuber

**I believe discipline plays a crucial role. I remember during my UPSC CSE preparation days, I set daily targets in terms of specific page numbers, ensuring a goal-oriented approach. Rather than allocating time, I focused on covering a set number of pages each day, and I wouldn't stop till I met my target**
— Manuj Jindal, UPSC Topper, YouTuber, and TEDx Speaker

# MEMORISING
## A vital skill to cultivate

AN essential element of effective learning lies within the intricate web of memory traces. Without the ability to recall learned information, the essence of comprehension dissipates. Dr Anuj Pachhel, a productivity YouTuber and an MBBS graduate from Government Medical College, Nagpur, emphasises the significance of a mindset shift. He contends, "Shift your mindset – you cannot simply memorise or retain; you must consistently keep trying and not lose hope."

"Father, an education expert, taught us the 'Chain Method of Memory' and we started on it when I was two years old, in fact, there is a video on YouTube where I answer almost 300 questions. The method requires us to link a concept to objects that we are familiar with and this would help us remember," says young prodigy Agastya Jaiswal.

Despite the prevailing pessimistic mindset towards memorisation and understanding, the two are intrinsically linked. In fact, these efforts stand as some of the most recommended and scientifically proven study techniques, supported by empirical data.

We sought insights from Memory Coach John Louis, to explore the relationship between memory and academic success.

**People think memory techniques do not require them to understand the concept, but it is not so. Techniques give you the concentration required and make the process of memorising more enjoyable**
—John Louis, International Memory Coach

**RETAIN INFORMATION:** Students can remember key concepts, factual details, and procedural steps, which form the building blocks of understanding and skill acquisition.

**CONNECT IDEAS:** Strong memory enables students to make connections between different pieces of information, fostering critical thinking and deeper comprehension.

**APPLY KNOWLEDGE:** They can recall learned information and apply it to solve problems, answer questions, and complete assignments, demonstrating their understanding.

**LEARN EFFECTIVELY:** Memory plays a crucial role in the learning process itself. Students can remember study strategies, feedback, and mistakes, allowing them to adapt and improve their learning methods as well.

**BUILD CONFIDENCE:** Confidence in one's memory can lead to increased motivation and engagement in learning, further contributing to academic success.

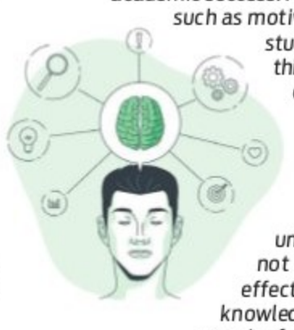
### *Here are some specific examples of how different types of memory contribute to academic performance:*

**A WORKING MEMORY:** Holds temporary information needed for ongoing tasks, like solving Math problems or understanding complex sentences. Deficient working memory can hinder comprehension and problem-solving abilities.

**B LONG-TERM MEMORY:** Stores knowledge and skills for future use. Strong long-term memory allows students to retain what they've learned and access it for exams, essays, and future learning.

**C EPISODIC MEMORY:** Remembers specific experiences and events. This can help recall historical events, scientific experiments, or literary passages very well.

**D SEMANTIC MEMORY:** Stores general knowledge and concepts. This allows students to understand the meaning of words, apply mathematical principles, and grasp scientific theories.



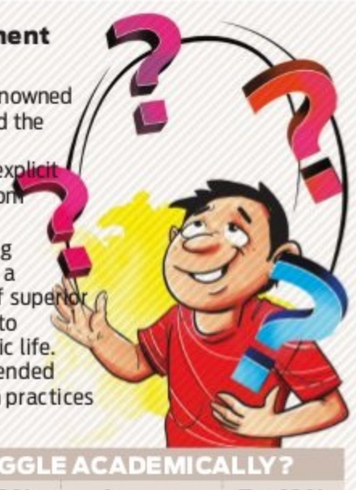
*However, it's important to note that memory is not solely responsible for academic success. Additional factors such as motivation, attention, study skills, and critical thinking also play crucial roles. Additionally, not all memories are created equal. Rote memorisation without understanding may not translate to effective application of knowledge, while meaningful learning leads to stronger, more accessible memories.*

***In conclusion,*** *memory is a powerhouse for academic success. Strong memory empowers students to retain information, connect ideas, and apply knowledge. By understanding the different types of memory and cultivating effective memory strategies, students can improve their learning and achieve their academic goals.*

### Why do students fail to implement effective learning techniques?

As per Nate Kornell and Robert A Bjork, renowned professors of Psychology who championed the cause of learning and memory, 80% of undergraduates admit to never receiving explicit guidance on effective study techniques from teachers.

Further, research claims that changing established study routines proves to be a formidable challenge. The awareness of superior approaches doesn't always translate into seamless integration into daily academic life. Discrepancies also emerge between intended and actual strategy use, especially with practices like flashcards.



**WHY DO STUDENTS STRUGGLE ACADEMICALLY?**

| Reason for Struggle | Bottom 10% | Average | Top 10% |
|---|---|---|---|
| Using ineffective strategy | 27 (25%) | 33 (32%) | 16 (17%) |
| Lack of preparation | 9 (8%) | 12 (12%) | 17 (18%) |
| Teacher | 2 (2%) | 9 (9%) | 23 (25%) |
| Lack of effort | 25 (24%) | 17 (17%) | 2 (2%) |
| Lack of talent | 7 (7%) | 6 (6%) | 10 (11%) |
| Distracted | 36 (34%) | 25 (25%) | 24 (26%) |

**Numerical outside bracket:** Number of students out of 300 respondents
**Numerical inside bracket:** Percentage of responses
**Source:** Students Can (Mostly) Recognize Effective Learning, So Why Do They Not Do It?

# LEARNING
First, let's dissect a few ineffective study techniques and understand why they could actually prove to be a waste of time

1. REREADING - **Why it fails:** This passive strategy fosters a false sense of confidence. Its relatively relaxed approach lacks active retrieval of information, rendering it ineffective for long-term retention.

2. HIGHLIGHTING - **Why it falters:** While more active than rereading, highlighting doesn't enhance long-term memory. Students may also highlight non-essential information. Studies, like the one at Kent State University, label highlighting as a 'low utility' technique that adds little to performance.

3. MNEMONICS - **Strengths and limitations:** Effective for rote learning but falls short in promoting a deeper understanding. While useful in subjects like Chemistry, it should complement, not replace, active recall for overall comprehensive learning.

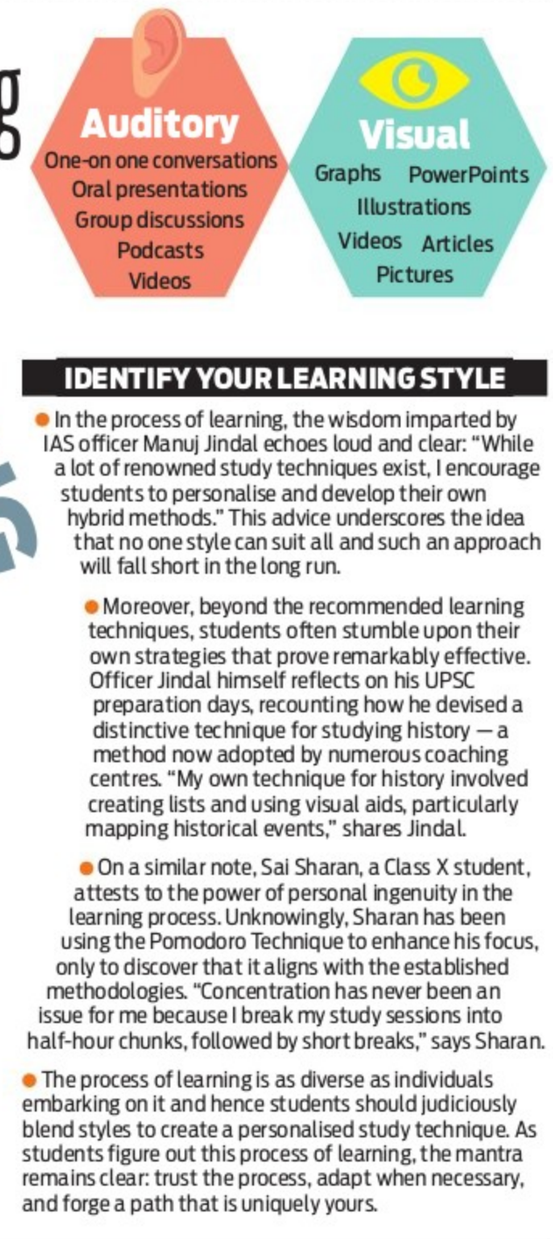
4. CRAMMING - **Short-term gain, long-term loss:** Common yet counterproductive, cramming yields short-term achievements but fails in long-term retention due to the Forgetting Curve. Marks may be earned, but the knowledge quickly fades away.

5. BLOCKED PRACTICE - **Diversify for stronger memory:** Instead of mastering one topic through continuous repetition (blocked practice), one can opt for mixed practice. This technique enhances memory by differentiating related topics, fostering stronger memory associations.

### UNDERSTANDING IFFERENT LEARNING STYLES
**Visual, Auditory and Kinesthetic**

Visual learners, with an affinity for charts and diagrams, absorb information best when presented in a visual format. Auditory learners, on the other hand, excel through listening, grasping concepts more effectively when explained verbally or through discussions. Kinesthetic learners thrive on hands-on experiences, understanding and retaining information by actively engaging with it.

**While a lot of renowned study techniques exist, I encourage students to personalise and develop their own hybrid methods**—Manuj Jindal, UPSC Topper, YouTuber, and TEDx Speaker




### IDENTIFY YOUR LEARNING STYLE

- In the process of learning, the wisdom imparted by IAS officer Manuj Jindal echoes loud and clear: "While a lot of renowned study techniques exist, I encourage students to personalise and develop their own hybrid methods." This advice underscores the idea that no one style can suit all and such an approach will fall short in the long run.
- Moreover, beyond the recommended learning techniques, students often stumble upon their own strategies that prove remarkably effective. Officer Jindal himself reflects on his UPSC preparation days, recounting how he devised a distinctive technique for studying history — a method now adopted by numerous coaching centres. "My own technique for history involved creating lists and using visual aids, particularly mapping historical events," shares Jindal.
- On a similar note, Sai Sharan, a Class X student, attests to the power of personal ingenuity in the learning process. Unknowingly, Sharan has been using the Pomodoro Technique to enhance his focus, only to discover that it aligns with the established methodologies. "Concentration has never been an issue for me because I break my study sessions into half-hour chunks, followed by short breaks," says Sharan.
- The process of learning is as diverse as individuals embarking on it and hence students should judiciously blend styles to create a personalised study technique. As students figure out this process of learning, the mantra remains clear: trust the process, adapt when necessary, and forge a path that is uniquely yours.

IIBS International Institute of Business Studies
BENGALURU
Approved by AICTE & Affiliated to Bangalore City University
Ministry of Education, Government of India
NAAC NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
A GRADE
Highest CGPA 3.20 in 4-Point Scale

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR MBA/PGDM
BATCH (2024-26)
(Dual Specialization)

WHY IIBS...?
Ranking, Accreditation & Approval

- NAAC A Grade (Highest CGPA 3.20 in 4 Point Scale)
- Karnataka Top 20 Educational Institute Survey 2023 (Ranking Edition June 2023) By-THE ACADEMIC INSIGHTS
- India's Top 50 Non IIM's B Schools Survey 2023 (Ranking Edition June 2023) By-THE ACADEMIC INSIGHTS
- COLLEGE OF THE YEAR 2022 Review- Dec 2022 (Source: The Higher Education Review)
- Beyond IIMs, IIBS stands in 3rd Position under 100 top MBA Colleges in India. Survey 2021 (Source: The Higher Education Review)

- IIBS Finishing School
- Merit Scholarship
  - For Male Candidate upto Rs. 2.10 Lacs
  - For Female Candidate upto Rs. 2.30 Lacs
- Free Laptop & International tour*
- Four Levels of Mentorship
  - Corporate Mentoring
  - Alumni Mentoring
  - Faculty Mentoring
  - Placement Mentoring
- Five Months Paid Internship
  - Two Months Paid winter Internship
  - Three Months Paid Summer Internship
- 54% Faculty with PhD & from Corporate
- Industrial Visits
  - 16 + Industrial Visits in two years
- 85% Experiential Learning
- IIBS Offers total 16 Specialization in MBA/ PGDM
- Four International Boot Camp
  - Italian Boot Camp
  - French Boot Camp
  - Japanese Boot Camp
  - Australian Boot Camp
- 3000+ Companies for Placement
- 3% of the students become the CEO of their own company
- Out of 7500+ Alumni 20% across the World
- Southern India Railway tour & Western Ghats Trekking
- ALP (Adventure Learning Program)
- Best B School in Bangalore with the highest ROI
- IIBS provides total 72 Certifications along with MBA/PGDM
  - 2 from Harvard Business School
  - 10 from IIM-Bangalore
  - 45 from IIBS Finishing School
  - 15 Other Corporate Houses
- Two Hostels For Boys & Girls with all amenities
- 50% seat reserve for Girls Candidate.
- IIBS Students Clubs & Forums

Call : 9986415333 / 9620248214
#75, Muthugadahalli, Jala Hobli, Near International Airport, Bengaluru-562 157.
admission@iibsonline.com www.iibs.edu.in | www.iibsonline.com

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

# Bengaluru Express

READSHAREFOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
Mail us: bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
08•01•2024
MONDAY

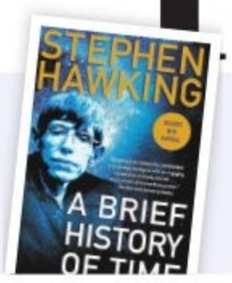
**DAY'S DIARY**

## *Happy Birthday*

Stephen William Hawking, a theoretical physicist, cosmologist, and author, was born on January 8, 1942, in Oxford, England

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

At the age of eleven, he went to St. Albans School and then to University College, Oxford. He later joined Cambridge to do research in cosmology




**NOTABLE WORKS**

In 2004, he had reversed the 1966 black hole theory, along with releasing books like *A Brief History of Time*, *The Grand Design*, and many more

**RECOGNITIONS**

Apart from being a Fellow of the Royal Society, he had twelve honorary degrees and was also awarded the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom

*A curated guide to happenings in the city*

PG 2

# A Diverse Turn

After 75 years of being a women-only college, the prestigious Mount Carmel College recently announced its decision to transition into a fully co-ed institution. *CE* speaks to Carmelites – both present and past – and others, who share their reactions to the development

**Madhu Nataraj, dancer-choreographer and alumni**

I'd be lying if I said that I wasn't a little disappointed. Although I had always been in co-ed environments before I joined Mount Carmel, when I went there as a teenager, it gave me a sense of liberation, and made me feel safe. I knew that I could rely on other women there for support. It was a creative and open-spirited environment. While the regimen was very strict, I also learned great acts of kindness from the nuns. It was inspiring to be led by such powerful women as well. It was there that I decided that I would go back to dance and become a dancer. I'm all open for inclusivity and diversity, but I know that the dynamics are going to be different moving forward. But having known the wonderful leaders there, I'm sure they will navigate it well and ensure a smooth transition.

**Rupam Shukla, student**

This transition at Mount Carmel was somewhat expected, especially since the college started admitting boys for postgraduate courses a few years ago. I feel it's necessary to evolve with time and make our educational institutions more diverse and inclusive. While it will be initially difficult for students to adapt to these changes, I believe they will eventually be accepting. However, there is a downside to consider – families with conservative views might not be comfortable sending their children to a co-ed institution. So, while the change fosters diversity, it might also impact certain students' access to education.

**Poorna Chandrashekar, sophomore student**

I believe it's a good decision to transition to a co-ed college. It's necessary to have exposure to other genders, which will help us adapt to studying alongside males. The college should, however, ensure a safer space for girls, maybe by increasing the standards of admission criteria for boys. Initially, everyone might feel awkward, but this will normalise over time, just like in other universities. Many students, especially girls from conservative backgrounds, might feel uncomfortable at first, but I don't think it will be a hindrance to learning.

**Krishna Priya, student**

It's hard to believe that Mount Carmel, a college exclusively for girls for over 75 years, is transitioning to co-ed. It will definitely bring a challenging and different culture, but I'm looking forward to seeing how the college's culture changes with male students involved. The educational experience will likely be enhanced with higher competition between genders. While many girls might be apprehensive about this change, it's ultimately an important step forward.

**Priya Pandey, legal compliance consultant and alumni**

The transition of Mount Carmel College into a co-ed institution after all these years brings mixed emotions for me. I see it as a chance for broader diversity and inclusivity, which is a positive. However, it also means re-evaluating the college's traditions, values, and identity. This change could impact the college's historical legacy, as it shifts from being an women-only college. I remember how the environment of the college positively impacted my academic path and personal development, offering a nurturing setting free from gender biases. Yet, with the inclusion of male students, I believe the campus dynamics will change, bringing a more diverse range of opinions and experiences.

**Anusha Kumari, student**

While the transition might be challenging initially, but it's important for students' personal and professional growth. Mount Carmel College has always promoted women empowerment, and I believe this legacy will continue, now in a more inclusive space. While the women-only environment provided a safe space for education and discussing women-centric issues, the lack of interaction with the opposite gender has its drawbacks. This change will help in conveying our feelings better and understanding others, which is vital for professional development.

# Riot of Colours

THIS Sunday, the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath on Kumarakurpa Road was bustling with activity as Bengalureans showed up in vast numbers for the 21st edition of Chitra Santhe. From having their faces painted by professionals to trying their own hand art, visitors took part in various fun activities at the festival. The event saw the participation of over 1500 artists from 22 States.

PICS: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

**Aslam Gafoor** (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

**THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY**

Send answers to **bengalurucity express@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first prize winner will receive a voucher worth ₹2,000 from House of Commons, Yelahanka**

**THE RIGHT ANSWERS**

1) Croquembouche 2) Sous Vide 3) Caviar

**FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT**

1) Sohan Khatotkar 2) Sudhindra Sripadarao 3) Shrimant Bilkar

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

## REVA University Celebrates Founders Day

REVA University hosted 'Founder's Day' at the REVA University campus on January 6, 2024. The annual one-day event was held on the occasion of the birthday of Dr. P. Shyama Raju, Chancellor, REVA University.

Dr. P. Shyama Raju, addressing the event, conveyed gratitude for the birthday wishes from family, extended family, and the REVA community. He outlined his vision for REVA, aspiring to rank among the top 500 global universities, emphasising the goal for REVA graduates to be societal contributors and leaders, eventually becoming job providers.

During the event, the REVA Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 was bestowed upon Indian Aerospace Scientist Nambi Narayanan and Indian Actor Anant Nag. TV Presenter and actress Anushree was awarded the REVA Excellence Award on the occasion.

Indian Aerospace scientist Nambi Narayanan, who received the REVA Lifetime Achievement Award, remarked that he was fortunate to have collaborated with scientific luminaries such as UR Rao, APJ Abdul Kalam, Satish Dhawan, and Vikram Sarabhai. "I am fortunate that, even with limited resources, my team and I were able to make a substantial contribution to aerospace 50 years ago."

Nambi Narayanan praised REVA for its work creating a clean and green campus under the guidance of Chancellor Dr. P. Shyama Raju. "It is wonderful to know that REVA is climbing up the ladders with its environmental conservation initiatives and sustainability efforts," he said.

Anant Nag commended Dr. P. Shyama Raju for his vision of giving back to the community. "Dr. P. Shyama Raju is a visionary whose ideas transcend greatness. The world can take a cue from him in producing leaders and role models through his institution, REVA University.

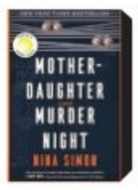
The event was presided over by Dr. P Shyama Raju, Chancellor, REVA University. Umesh S Raju, Pro Chancellor; Dr. M. Dhanamjaya, Vice Chancellor, trustees, REVA faculty and staff were present during the function.

Aerospace Scientist Nambi Narayanan receives the REVA Lifetime Achievement Award from Dr. P. Shyama Raju, Chancellor, REVA University on the occasion of Founder's Day 2024 held at REVA University. Also seen are: (L to R): Dr. M. Dhanamjaya, Vice Chancellor, REVA University; Umesh. S. Raju, Pro Chancellor, REVA University; and Anant Nag, actor.

TV Presenter and actress Anushree receives the REVA Excellence Award from Dr. P. Shyama Raju.

Anant Nag receives the REVA Lifetime Achievement Award from Dr. P. Shyama Raju.

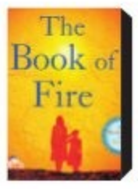
# BOOK NOOK




## Mother-Daughter Murder Night

**By NINA SIMON**

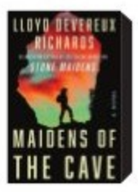
The book centres around Lana Rubicon, a businesswoman recovering with her family in a coastal town, who takes charge when her granddaughter Jack stumbles upon a murder. As they uncover lies and disputes, the Rubicon women must learn to depend on each other in the face of escalating danger.




## The Book of Fire

**By CHRISTY LEFTERI**

The book traces a family from England and Greece — Irini, Tasso, and daughter Chara — living in a Greek village shattered by a greed-fueled fire. Chara bears scars, Tasso grapples with trauma, and Irini carries guilt. Amid ruins, the family starts a slow journey of hope and renewal.




## Maidens of The Cave

**By LLOYD DEVEREUX RICHARDS**

FBI agent Christine Prusik, a daring forensic anthropologist, dives into a case of chilling serial murders in caves across Indiana and Illinois. Amid procedural hurdles and a distinct mark left on victims, Christine fights both the system and her demons to unmask the elusive killer.

## Not Quite A Disaster After All

**By BUKU SARKAR**

The book is about exploring life's shifting expectations, navigating the thin line between self-destruction and survival, while finding love in people, cities, and the allure of fresh beginnings

# WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

## Yoga time

Step onto the yoga mat with Mirra and explore the levels of your own body. Experience the path to inner joy and resilience.

**When:** Jan 9, 7am
**Where:** Shoonya Center for Art and Somatic Practices, Lal Bagh Main Road
**Details:** bookmyshow.com

## Laugh Central

Prepare for a continuous dose of humour, delivered by Madhur Virli who promises to keep you entertained throughout with his comic timings.

**When:** Jan 8, 8pm
**Where:** Ministry of Comedy, Koramangala
**Details:** bookmyshow.com

## Moulding Clay

Unleash your creativity in a private pottery experience where every creation comes to life. Enjoy the exclusivity of the private setup, with the studio reserved just for you and your chosen couple or group.

**When:** Jan 8, 6pm **Where:** Wheel and Potter Pottery Studio, Srinivasa Nagar **Details:** bookmyshow.com

## Culinary delight

Chef Tala Bashmi is bringing in the Bahrani flavours to Bengaluru at a special culinary gathering. Trained at the Culinary Arts Academy in Switzerland, Bashmi has worked alongside Michelin-starred chefs. ₹12,000+ tax, per guest.

**When:** Jan 10, 7.30pm **Where:** The Chambers, Taj West End, Race Course Road **Details:** Write to nisha.dhage@tajhotels.com

## Karaoke Nights

Get ready for a night of electrifying fun at our Late Night Karaoke event. Discover the hidden singing talents of our team while enjoying a night filled with music, laughter, and good vibes.

**When:** Jan 8, 10pm
**Where:** Marcopolo Cafe, Koramangala
**Details:** bookmyshow.com

## Pluck and Play

Master the art of fingerstyle guitar with this workshop covering the basics of fingerstyle technique, chord shapes, and arpeggios.

**When:** Jan 8, 8pm
**Where:** My School Of Rock, Adugodi
**Details:** bookmyshow.com

## Soulful Silence

Unlock tranquillity amid life's chaos with this workshop. Learn powerful techniques to silence the mental chatter, promoting profound calm and clarity.

**When:** Jan 8, 6pm **Where:** SAMA: The Calm Mind Studio, Whitefield
**Details:** bookmyshow.com

**MAKING MEMORIES**

A mother clicks a picture of her daughters posing in a photo booth at Bannerghatta Biological Park | ALLEN EGENUSE J

# QUICK FIX

## CORN PANEER SALAD

Contributed by **Uma Sridharan,** Chennai

**INGREDIENTS**

- **Sweet Corn:** 250 g
- **Paneer:** 250 g
- **Capsicum :** 1
- **Salt to taste**
- **Lemon Juice**
- **White pepper:** 1/2 tsp
- **Coriander leaves( chopped):** hand full
- **Onion:** 1

**METHOD**

- Cook corn till it becomes tender.
- Chop onion and capsicum finely and paneer in cubes.
- Combine all the ingredients.
- Serve chilled.

## What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

# FIT BIT

## EKA PADA RAJAKAPOTASANA 2 PREP

(ONE-LEGGED KING PIGEON POSE 2 PREP)

**This asana increases flexibility and has many physical and spiritual benefits. It is associated with the Ajna ( third eye) chakra. To open a third eye is to accept spiritual wisdom and discernment, and lets our brain quantify the variables of an object in motion.**

**STEPS**

- Start with Adho Mukha Svanasana (Downward Facing Dog Pose). Remain here for about 3-4 breaths.
- Inhale, lift your left foot, and bring it forward, forming a Utthita Ashwa Sanchalanasana (Lunge Pose).
- Exhale and bring the shoulders in line with the knee and ankle.
- Lower your hips and back knees, and come to Anjaneyasana (Low Lunge Hands to Knee).
- Stay balanced as you gently push your hips down and yourself upwards, lengthening the arms and forming a sthira sukham asanam (steady-comfortable pose).
- Bend your right leg, ensuring that your back knee is bent towards the glutes, with the front heel down and the spine straight.
- Breathe gently and feel the stretch at the arms, shoulders, front torso, hips, quadriceps, knees, and hamstrings.
- Stay in this position as you push the hips lower for about 2-3 breaths initially. Then, with practise, you can increase the duration.
- To release, exhale and lower the leg down, and come back to Adho Mukha Svanasana.
- Repeat the practice on the other side and relax in Balasana (Child Pose).

**BENEFITS**

- This asana activates various joints in your body and improves the flexibility of the shoulders and arms.
- Stretches and stimulates the chest and diaphragm.
- Increases the lung capacity and improves the concentration powers.
- Stabilises the hips and shoulders.
- Stimulates the digestive, respiratory and reproductive organs.
- Cures sciatic nerve pain issues, digestive problems, and reproductive diseases.
- Effective for endocrine glands like the testes and ovaries.
- Balances Swadisthana (Sacral), Muladhara (Root), and Anahata (Heart) Chakras.

**LIMITATIONS**

Senior citizens and people with ankle, knee, hip, shoulder, rib cage, elbow, or wrist injuries or vertigo problems should avoid this.

Pregnant women should avoid practising this in their initial months of pregnancy but can do it in their ninth month with assistance.

**By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai**

# NOW STREAMING

## REGIONAL

**KOUSALYA SUPRAJA RAMA** (Kannada)

It is a romantic comedy-drama that focuses on the most ignored issue in our society, male chauvinism. The movie depicts the definition of a true man.

**Cast:** Darling Krishna, Sudha Belawadi, Brinda Acharya

● **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

**GHAR BANDUK BIRYANI** (Marathi)

A witty and thrilling story of one who is longing for a home and struggling for his rights has a hunger for ambition.

**Cast:** Sayli Patil, Nagraj Manjule, Deepti Devi, Sayaji Shinde

● **Watch on:** ZEE5

**KHO GAYE HUM KAHAN** (Hindi)

Three best friends juggle life as 20-somethings in Mumbai, where romance, ambition, and heartbreak collide with the addictive draw of social media.

**Cast:** Ananya Panday, Siddhant Chaturvedi, Adarsh Gourav, Rohan Gurbaxani ● **Watch on:** Netflix

**SKANDA: THE ATTACKER** (Telugu)

This movie is about a man who is seeking revenge against people who are responsible for gravely injuring his sister.

**Cast:** Ram Pothineni, Sreeleela, Saiee Manjrekar, Prince Cecil

● **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar



**THE RAILWAY MEN - THE UNTOLD STORY OF BHOPAL 1984** (Hindi, series)

After deadly gas leaks from a factory in Bhopal, brave railway workers risk their lives to save others in the face of an unspeakable disaster.

**Cast:** R Madhavan, Kay Kay Menon, Divyenndu, Babil Khan

● **Watch on:** Netflix

*All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.*

**TATSAMA TADBHAVA** (Kannada)

A detective searches for a missing person and discovers lots of hidden truths and mysteries along the way.

**Cast:** Meghana Raj, Prajwal Devraj, Aravind Iyer, Mahati

● **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

**80S BUILDUP** (Tamil)

A young guy tries to impress a girl who showed up at his grandfather's goodbye party. As part of the fun challenge with his sister, he tries to win her over before the event ends.

**Cast:** Anandraj, Arjai, Arunachalam

● **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

## FOREIGN

**WELCOME TO SAMDAL-RI** (Korean, series)

After falling from grace, a photographer returns to her hometown and bumps into her childhood friend, rekindling an unfinished romance.

**Cast:** Shin Hae-sun, Ji Chang-wook, Kim Mi-kyung, Kang Yeong-seok

● **Watch on:** Netflix

**NOWHERE** (Spanish)

Pregnant, alone, and drifting in the sea, a woman trapped in a shipping container tries to survive after fleeing a devastated totalitarian country.

**Cast:** Anna Castillo, Tamar Novas, Victoria Teijeiro, Tony Corvillo

● **Watch on:** Netflix

**LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND** (English)

A family's getaway to a luxurious rental home takes an ominous turn when a cyber attack knocks out their devices, and two strangers appear at their door.

**Cast:** Julia Roberts, Ethan Hawke, Mahershala Ali, Myha'la Herrold

● **Watch on:** Netflix

**MONIQUE OLIVIER: ACCESSORY TO EVIL** (French, series)

From 1987 to 2003, Michel Fourniret's crimes made him the most infamous murderer in France. Whether he was a mere pawn or an active accomplice, his wife, who is currently serving a life sentence, remains an enigma.

**Cast:** Francis Nachbar, Richard Delgenes, Gérard Chemla, Didier Seban

● **Watch on:** Netflix

**SUBSCRIPTION**

| | |
|---|---|
| Netflix: | ₹199/month |
| Prime Video: | ₹299/month |
| Jio Cinema: | ₹999/year |
| Disney+ Hotstar: | ₹899/year |
| Zee5: | ₹699/year |
| Viki Rakuten: | ₹299/month |
| Aha: | ₹699/year |
| SonyLIV: | ₹299/month |

# Game On, 2024!

From action-adventure titles that push narrative boundaries, to ones that revive classic franchises with modern flourishes, *CE* looks at some of the highly anticipated video games that are set to release in 2024

## STAR WARS OUTLAWS

Set in the period between the films *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*, *Star Wars Outlaws* offers players the ability to navigate through the Star Wars universe, encountering familiar themes and scenarios. In its first public demo, the game showcased destroyed imperial ships being repurposed by bandits, indicating the game's focus on giving players new experiences alongside the traditional elements of battling the Empire. The gameplay revealed so far includes third-person cover shooting and missions requiring strategic use of equipment to gain an advantage over enemies.

**Expected Release:** Late 2024

**Platform(s):** Windows, Playstation, Xbox

## PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE LOST CROWN

**Expected Release:** Jan 18

Platform(s): Windows, Playstation, Xbox, Switch

Ubisoft's latest addition to the *Prince of Persia* series, *The Lost Crown* promises to be a stylish and thrilling action-adventure platformer that transports players into a mythological Persian world. The game marks a return to the series after a lengthy hiatus, and takes inspiration from its 2D roots. The game features a deep combat system where protagonist Sargon engages in fast-paced and varied battles, using a mix of sword attacks, archery, and special abilities. The game also offers a robust exploration aspect, with secret pathways and areas requiring specific power-ups. Players can expect to engage in complex traversal mechanics, reflecting the series' origin in platforming agility. Finally, the game is also notable for its manipulation of time and space.

## SUICIDE SQUAD: KILL THE JUSTICE LEAGUE

**Expected Release:** Feb 2

**Platform(s):** Windows, Playstation, Xbox

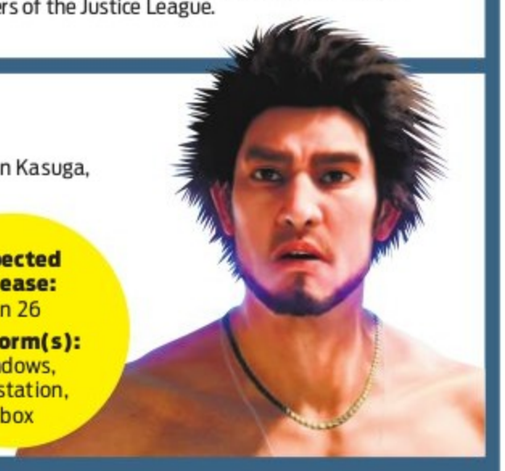
THIS action-adventure open world game is a direct successor to the acclaimed *Batman: Arkham Knight* (2015). As such it builds on the storyline from the previous games in the *Batman: Arkham* series. Players take control of four supervillains from Suicide Squad - Captain Boomerang, Deadshot, Harley Quinn, and King Shark - who are tasked by Amanda Waller to stop the alien invader Brainiac and confront the brainwashed members of the Justice League.

## LIKE A DRAGON: INFINITE WEALTH

The ninth entry of the *Like a Dragon* series *Like a Dragon: Infinite Wealth* revolves around Ichiban Kasuga, the protagonist of 2020's *Yakuza: Like a Dragon*, and Kazuma Kiryu, the original protagonist of the series. The game is set in Hawaii, marking the first time the franchise ventures outside Japan. The game maintains a turn-based combat system for all playable characters, with each character having distinct jobs or classes. Kiryu's unique job, 'Dragon of Dojima', allows him to switch between multiple fighting styles and temporarily engage in real-time combat. The Poundmates summon system also returns with new and returning franchise characters. The game is also set to introduce new minigames such as Crazy Delivery, Sujimon Battle, and Miss Match.

**Expected Release:** Jan 26

**Platform(s):** Windows, Playstation, Xbox



## THE WOLF AMONG US 2

**Expected Release:** Early 2024

**Platform(s):** Windows, MacOS, Playstation, Xbox

The much anticipated sequel to *The Wolf Among Us*, is set six months after the events of the first game, and continues the story of Bigby Wolf, the Sheriff of Fabletown, in a world where fairytale characters are real and walk among us. Players will unravel a captivating mystery, navigating the seedy underbelly of the city. The storyline involves Bigby investigating a new series of murders, with the potential to bring the community apart. The game features a cast of memorable characters, including Snow White, Beauty and the Beast, and the Woodsman, offering a rich narrative experience. The sequel also promises to build upon the strengths of the original game while introducing new gameplay mechanics and visuals.

## MICROSOFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR 2024

**Expected Release:** Late 2024

**Platform(s):** Windows, Xbox

**The latest iteration of one of the most beloved simulator games in history is set to drop later this year. In terms of gameplay, the 2024 edition offers an extensive list of new flight activities. Developer Asobo Studio has seemingly considered every conceivable use for a plane beyond the typical point-to-point flight. This includes activities such as aerial firefighting, search and rescue operations, air ambulance services, crop dusting, skydive aviation, aerial construction, and many others. Additionally, the simulator introduces new aircraft types such as gliders, airships, hot air balloons, and airliners. The game also enhances the environmental features, including snow, tornadoes, auroras, animal migration and herds, and improved ground traffic reporting.**

# BREAKING TABOOS

Ira Guha, daughter of prolific historian Ramachandra Guha, on forging her own entrepreneurial path, the significance of Asan and the way forward

**POOJA DAS**

GROWING up as a woman, the stigma around menstrual health and hygiene is something most of us have experienced firsthand. With the stigma comes the inherent silence around starting important conversations about menstruation. One such conversation has been at the forefront of Bengaluru-based entrepreneur **Ira Guha**'s journey of creating Asan.

"I decided to start Asan when I realised that in my community in Bengaluru, lack of access to period products is stopping women and girls from attending school. While on a trip back home, I met a cook who was using low-quality sanitary pads because of which she had really bad rashes and she was missing out on work and losing wages," says Ira Guha, who is also the daughter of renowned historian Ramachandra Guha. She further adds, "This period of poverty is also affecting our economic empowerment as a country because we are losing out on actual income and GDP."

Determined to address period poverty, Ira Guha, then a graduate student at Harvard Kennedy School, collaborated with Harvard engineers to design the Asan Cup. "We designed and patented our menstrual cup from scratch which took one and a half years of testing and product development." The Asan cup is a reusable menstrual cup with a ring design for easy removal. Guha is optimistic since post-pandemic there has been a huge uptake in reusable period products.

"There was a lot of disruption in supply chains so people realised a reusable product makes more sense. Also, during Covid, all of us became much more aware of our environment and our waste so the fact that one Asan cup diverts 2500 pads became much more significant," shares Guha.

In her journey so far, Guha says her family's support has been instrumental for her in taking risks, "My mother is an entrepreneur, she has her own business and she has always taken risks. So, I had the model of a female entrepreneur in my own family and I think that is very inspiring." For Guha, one of the defining moments of her journey has been bringing the cup to 60 villages in Kanakapura taluk. "Every time someone doubts our work, I draw inspiration from the rural women and girls who are leading our training programmes because 100 per cent of the trainers and educators for this programme are from the villages.

They see the benefit of the cup immediately and they are extremely open-minded and honestly, they are what inspires me to keep going."

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

We, Waseem Khan and Rafia Mariam Khan resident of No. 37/6, J Cross, 3rd Main, Bismilla Nagar, Bengaluru-560029 have changed our son's name from **MOHAMMED UMAIR KHAN** to **UMAIR KHAN** vide affidavit dated 06/01/2024 sworn before Advocate and notary Yankoba, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **PRAKRUTHI MIDHUN,** W/o Midhun, aged about 53 years, R/at No.545, 1st Floor, 32nd Cross, 9th Main, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011, Have changed my name from **"PRAKRUTHI DAYANIDHI MIDHUN" to "PRAKRUTHI MIDHUN"** vide affidavit dated 06.01.2024 sworn before Notary **NEHA BADDI,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **PRIYA AGARWAL,** W/o Mr. Ravi Narayan, age 40 years, R/at No. 162, 5th Main, M M Road, Byatarayanapura New Extension, Mysore Road, Bangalore-560 026 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PRIYA RAVI NARAYAN** to **PRIYA AGARWAL,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **PRIYA AGARWAL** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 4th January 2024, sworn before Notary **Aravind Patil G.G.** at Bangalore.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **SNEHA DHRUVE,** W/o Harshil N Dhruve, aged about 31 years, R/at No. 26, Shri Hari Krupa, Serpentine Road, Near V.S. Raju Road, Kumara Park West, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SNEHA KUMARI** to **SNEHA DHRUVE,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SNEHA DHRUVE** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 05.01.2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **M. RAJENDRA,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **NABISA .M,** S/o Mohammed Ali, age 46 years, R/o No. 266, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Opp. Muthu Clinic, New Byaiappanahalli, Indiranagar Post, Bangalore-560038 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MD NABSAB** to **NABISA .M,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **NABISA .M** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 2nd January 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MEER HASSAN** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MAIMONNISSA** (Old Name), Aged 39 Years, D/o. Syed Mukthar Ahmed, R/at NO.24, 3rd-G-Main, Nagamma Layout, Kaval Byrasandra, R.T.Naga, Bengaluru-560032 declare that I have changed my name from **MAIMONNISSA** (Old Name) to **MAIMUNNISSA S M** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **MAIMUNNISSA S M** (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 06/01/2024 before Notary **S.I.BALAGURU** at BENGALURU

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **JIJO JOYKUTTY IPE** S/o Joykutty Ipe. R/at No-TI, 3rd Floor, Affinity Meadows, Ramanashree California Layout, Ananthapura, Yelahanka, Bengaluru North - 560064., hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JIJO JOYKUTTY** to **JIJO JOYKUTTY IPE** vide affidavit dated 06.01.2024 sworn to before Notary **S. R.Ravikumar.**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **R NADHIYA,** D/o. K. Raju, Aged about 26 years, Residing at No. 9, 1st Cross, 1st Main, Brindavan Nagar, Tavarekere, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560 029, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **R NANDEESHWARI** to **R NADHIYA.** That, for the purpose of evidencing such my determination declare that I shall at all times hereafter in all records i.e, Aadhaar, PAN, Bank, Voter Id, Passport, Educational records and other records and documents, deeds and writings and in all proceedings, dealings and transactions, private as well as upon all occasions whatsoever use and sign the name **R NADHIYA** (New Name) as my name in place and in substitution of my former name. Vide affidavit dated 06.01.2024 sworn to before A. Manjunath, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MUBEENA KHANUM** (OLD NAME)W/o MUNEER AHAMED aged About 58 years Residing at NO.302, ,WHITE LIGHT APARTMENT,5 TH MAIN RANKA NAGAR, R T NAGAR POST BANGAORE-560032. I Have Changed My Name as **FATHIMA BI**, Affidavit Dated 06/01/2024 Sworn before Notary Deepa M, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **Smt. SUMAN LATA SHARMA,** W/o Vivek Sharma aged about 46 years, R/at Flat No.D-401, Sruthika Springfields, 4th Floor, Singapura Main Road, Bengaluru-560097, have changed my name from **SUMAN SHARMA** to **SUMAN LATA SHARMA.**, vide affidavit dated 6/1/2024 sworn to before R.S Vijay advocate and notary Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MOHAMMAD MOOSA,** S/o A.R. Mohammad Ummar, age 39 years, R/at #72, KRR Layout, Bethel Nagar, Basavanapura, K.R. Puram, Virgonagar Post, Bengaluru-560 049 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MOHAMMED MOOSA MOHAMMED VUMMER** to **MOHAMMAD MOOSA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **MOHAMMAD MOOSA** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 2nd January 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MEER HASSAN** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **TUSHITHA B.R,** D/o Sri Ramesha B.R, R/o No. 202, Ramky Shubam Apts, 1st Cross, Devinagar, Bangalore North, RMV Extension II Stage, Bangalore-560094, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **TUSHITHA RAMESHA** to **TUSHITHA B.R,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **TUSHITHA B.R** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 05.01.2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **CHANDRASHEKARIAH,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **RAMANI .B.S,** R/o No. 1618, B-Block, Sahakaranagar, Bangalore-560092, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RAMANI SUVARNA** to **RAMANI B.S,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **RAMANI B.S** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 04.01.2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **DIWAKAR .N KAGAWAD,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **SYED NAVAZUDDIN** (New Name), S/o SYED KALAMODDIN, Aged about 46 years, Resident at NO.22/12, 3RD FLOOR, 4TH MAIN, S.K.GARDEN, BENSON TOWN, BENGALURU-560046, KARNATAKA, declare that I have changed my name from **SYED NAWAJODDIN** (Old Name) to **SYED NAVAZUDDIN** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **SYED NAVAZUDDIN** (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 06/01/2024 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **YOGESH KUMAR D.R,** S/o Rajashekar D.G, aged about 38 years, R/o No. 501, Bazaar Street, 1st Ward, Near Govt Primary School, Dommasandra, Sarjapura, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka-562125, do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **YOGESHKUMARA DOMMASANDRA RAJASHEKARA** and **YOGESH KUMAR D R** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **YOGESH KUMAR D R** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 5-1-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **ROOPA G BHANDARE,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **A. ARAVIND KUMAR,** S/o Late M. Anjanamurthy, aged about 42 years, R/at No. 24, Anjana Murthy Nilaya, 4th Cross, Lottegollahalli, RMV 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560094, have changed out Son's name from **NISHCHAL KUMAR.A** to **NISHCHAL GOWDA .A.** Vide affidavit dated: 07.01.2024, sworn before Notary, **A. Manjula**, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **(OLD NAME) POORNIMA RAJU** Residing at No. D/o Raju N 9/14, 2nd Floor, 17th E Cross, Eshwara Layout LBS Nagar Indiranagar, 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560038. Have changed My Name from **(OLD NAME) POORNIMA RAJU** to **(NEW NAME) POORNIMA RAJ** Vide affidavit Dated 04.01.2024 Sworn before Notary KC Shashikala Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I,**(OLD NAME) RAJASHEKARA VENKATARAVANAPPA MADDILI NARASAPPA** Residing at No. S/o Venkataravanappa, No. 98 G-02, Ground Floor, 5th A Cross, Rhythm Bliss Apartments Green Day Layout Doddathogur, Electronic City Phase 3 Electronics City, Bengaluru - 560100. Have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) RAJASHEKARA VENKATARAVANAPPA MADDILI NARASAPPA** to **(NEW NAME) RAJASHEKAR MADDILI VENKATARAVANAPPA** Vide affidavit dated 04.01.2024 sworn before Notary KC Shashikala Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **AFIYA AFREEN**(OLD NAME) W/o KHIZAR AHMAD MANKAY aged About 25 years Residing at NO.302, WHITE LIGHT APARTMENT,5 TH MAIN RANKA NAGAR, R T NAGAR POST BANGALORE-560032. I Have Changed My Name as **AFIYA AFREEN S BHADRAPUR,** Affidavit Dated 06/01/2024 Sworn before Notary Deepa M, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, Azharuddin S/o Syed Anwar, R/at #37, 8th C Main Road, New Gurappanapalya, BTM Layout 1st Stage, Bengaluru-560029, have changed my name from **Azharuddin** to **SYED AZHARUDDIN** vide affidavit dated 05/01/2024 sworn before Mohammed Hussain K, Advocate and Notary, Bengaluru.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **RATHNA .N,** W/o Late Muralidhar .S, R/at No. 32, 2nd Cross, Appaiah Garden, Jogupalya, Benglauru North, Bengaluru-560 008 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **RATHNA .N, RATHNA NARASHIMAPPA & MUNIYAMMA** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 4th January 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **SRINATHA .D.R** at Bangalore.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **UPPALURU VENKATA SESHU SAI BABU,** S/o U S S V V Rajeshwararao, age 46 years, presently R/at No. A1401, Purva Venezia, Near Mother Diary, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560 064 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **UPPALURU VENKATA SESHU SAI BABU & SESHU U V RAO** are one and the same and refers to me only, now I have changed my name from **SESHU U V RAO** to **UPPALURU VENKATA SESHU SAI BABU,** vide affidavit dated 6th January 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **Diwakar N Kagawad** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **SIDHANTH V KUKREJA,** S/o Vijay Kumar, age 38 years, R/at Flat No. 7, 4th Floor, Sai Smaran, 17th Cross, 35th Main, 6th Phase, J.P. Nagar, Benglauru-560 078, Karnataka, India do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SIDHANTH VIJAY KUMAR** to **SIDHANTH V KUKREJA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SIDHANTH V KUKREJA** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th January 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D.K. RAMESHAPPA** at Bangalore.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **RAJASHEKAR D G, S/o D H Gurubasappa,** age 70 years, R/o No. 501, Bazaar Street, 1st Ward, Near Govt Primary School, Dommasandra, Sarjapura, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka-562125, do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **DOMMASANDRA GURUBASAPPA RAJASHAKARPPA, RAJASHEKARAPPA D G, RAJASHEKAR D G** and **RAJASHEKAR D G** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **RAJASHEKAR D G** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 05.01.2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **ROOPA G BHANDARE,** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **GOPAL GOWDA BETTADHA MALLENAHALLI JAVAREGOWDA,** Aged about 58 years, S/o. Javare Gowda, No. 396/821, 10th Cross, Shastrinagar, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 028, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **GOPAL** to **GOPAL GOWDA BETTADHA MALLENAHALLI JAVAREGOWDA** vide affidavit dated 06.01.2024 sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru

For SMART ADS & THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893

# YASH AND TEAM USHER IN STUNTVIS TECHNOLOGY FOR *TOXIC*

The Rocking Star celebrates his birthday today. *CE* reveals some interesting details about his much-anticipated multilingual film

A SHARADHAA

WE recently reported that Yash's much-anticipated return to the big screen after the KGF films was titled *Toxic - A Fairy Tale for Grown-ups*. Backed by KVN Productions in association with Monster Mind Entertainments, *Toxic* is set to be directed by Geetu Mohandas. While expressing gratitude for the overwhelming response to the title teaser, Yash, in a recent post, cherished the love from his fans, and revealed that he won't be in the city on his birthday, which falls on January 8.

Under Geetu Mohandas' direction, the film is currently in the pre-production phase, and the makers are leaving no stone unturned to make the film mark a significant step in the evolution of cinematic standards. This venture aims to cater to a diverse audience across the world, and one of the steps towards it is the planned multilingual release for *Toxic*.

Reports suggest meticulous planning behind the scenes, including the inception of Stuntvis technology, which is typically reserved for grand Hollywood films. Stuntvis is a virtual production, comprising storyboarding, CGI, and visual aids, mapping out intricate action scenes or stunts before filming, ensuring safety, choreography, and overall effectiveness before on-set execution.

Though official filming for *Toxic* is yet to begin, Yash has already initiated the groundwork for this project. Sources suggest that the team has conducted mock shoots and rehearsals to enhance the vital elements of the filmmaking process. Their meticulous attention to detail and unconventional methods aim for a level of perfection beyond traditional standards. With *Toxic*, Yash hopes to elevate not only the Kannada industry but also the Indian film industry to the global scale. While the film's music is by Jeremy Stack, the makers are yet to reveal the rest of the technical crew of the film.

## Kareena Kapoor Khan to join Yash's *Toxic*

It seems that Yash's movie *Toxic* is assembling an interesting cast. There have been speculations about Shruti Haasan being part of Geetu Mohandas' next, especially since she has sung the song being played in the teaser. Now, the latest buzz surrounding the casting of *Toxic* is that actor Kareena Kapoor Khan might be part of the film. Our source indicates she was among the early choices for the film. Her comment on Karan Johar's chat show, hinting at working with KGF star Yash, fuelled the rumours further. More details about the cast and crew are kept under wraps. If all goes according to plan, *Toxic* will mark Kareena Kapoor Khan's debut in the South film industry.

CE FEATURES

# 'The cinematography in *Bachelor Party* experiments with visual humour'

ABHIJITH Mahesh's directorial debut, *Bachelor Party*, is a comedy drama produced by Rakshit Shetty's Paramvah Studios. The film stars Diganth, Yogi, Achyuth Kumar, and Siri Ravi Kumar in prominent roles. What is particularly enticing about this film is that eighty per cent of it was shot in Thailand, in locations that were not seen in Kannada films before. Ahead of the film's release on Jan 26, cinematographer Aravind Kashyap, and music composer Arjun Ramu, share insights into their creative process for *Bachelor Party*.

Aravind Kashyap

In a comedy film, cinematography often takes a backseat. However, according to Aravind Kashyap, it was not the case with *Bachelor Party*. Aravind's last films, Kantara is set in the forest locales while Hostel Hudugaru was predominantly shot indoors. On the other hand, *Bachelor Party* enabled Aravind to explore vibrant destinations like Thailand. "After a couple of films mostly set in the dark, inside forests, and night shoots, this came as a breather where I could capture the film in daylight," says the cinematographer. Contrary to popular portrayals of an exotic location like Thailand, Bachelor Party had an entirely different approach, reveals Aravind Kashyap. "We scouted offbeat places, showcasing a Thailand beyond the typical party scene. The film features extensive travel, unveiling parts of Thailand never seen in Kannada cinema. Even I was surprised by the undiscovered locations in Thailand," he says.

"The cinematography in Bachelor Party diverges significantly from *Hostel Hudugaru, Kantara, and Charlie*, experimenting with visual humour. This new approach was liberating," he explains. However, he says the film also retains an emphasis on grand cinematic visuals.

Talking about the performances in the film, Aravind says "Great comedy requires excellent performances, and that came naturally to our stars Diganth, Yogi, and Achyuth Kumar. Our task was to capture their best moments," he says. "Travelling across Thailand for the shoot was hectic, given the limitations shooting abroad entails. With a restricted crew size and resources, despite our preparations and a prior recce, we had to maximize our efforts," he notes, and adds, "Technical constraints were a challenge too. While Thailand typically constitutes about 20 percent in Indian films, here it is nearly half the movie. So, even with limited resources, we didn't compromise."

Aravind then goes on to talk about working with director Abhijit, "Working with Abhijit was seamless as he had devoted ample time to the script. He excels in writing punch lines," Aravind concludes.

Scoring for comedy films is all about precision and timing: Arjun Ramu

Composer Arjun Ramu, known for his work in films like *Huliraya, Nanna Prakara, Demo Piece*, and the Telugu flick *Chaitanyam*, marks his fifth venture as a music director with *Bachelor Party*. This Rakshit Shetty project is his inaugural foray into comedy and a complete commercial venture. "Each time I delve into a new genre, it offers a fresh experience," he adds, recalling how Rakshit Shetty's production came across his work in *Huliraya* and mentioning discussions with Abijith Mahesh, his engineering college mate, which sparked the idea for this collaboration.

Sharing his experience, Arjun mentions how Abhijit had a specific tune in mind for the project. He feels the director, who served as a writer in Kirik Party and Avane Srimannarayana, is skilled in infusing scripts with a playful essence. "Having been with him throughout the process, I gained a clear understanding of the director's musical expectations," he explains.

*Bachelor Party* features four songs: three peppy tracks and a romantic melody. "The team has already unveiled the Party song, showcasing Yogi's fervor for parties. Another song delves into the frustrations of Satnu, an IT engineer, and his wife. Also, there's a montage song set in Bangkok and a love song in the album," he says.

"Understanding the script is crucial, especially in a comedy film, where lyrics should synchronise seamlessly with comedic timing," Arjun emphasises. "Crafting lively and fitting lyrics tailored to each character and situation uplifts the narrative. The background score, treated visually as part of the comical journey, will possess a distinct sound. Both the visual and auditory elements need to be built from scratch for comedy capers."

"Scoring for comedy films revolves around precision, timing, emphasising and enhancing comedic moments without overshadowing scenes," he points out. "In musical comedy scores, the music isn't meant to overshadow the scenes but rather complement them. When a scene gains 30 percent from music, the audience subconsciously connects better with the characters, creating a stronger emotional link. In fact, I have used Chinese plugged instruments and harps to enhance the comedy score and create music for a few roles in the film."

A stills from the film

# Shooting for *Salaar* Part 2 to resume in March

CE FEATURES

TEAM *Salaar* is currently riding high on the success of the Prashanth Neel directorial headlined by Prabhas. The film is said to have crossed the 700-crore mark at the worldwide box office. Considering Hombale Films and Prashanth have planned Salaar as a duology, there are a lot of speculations about when the second part will go on floors. Our sources close to the makers revealed that the shooting of the second part will begin in March.

Set in the fictional dystopian city-state of Khansaar, the film follows the friendship between Deva (Prabhas) and Varadha (Prithviraj), the crown prince of Khansaar. When a coup is planned by his father's ministers and his relatives, Varadha enlists Deva's help to become Khansaar's undisputed ruler. With the primary players having different agendas, the stage is set for the ultimate showdown in Part 2. Apart from Prabhas and Prithviraj, the film also stars Jagapathi Babu, Shruti Haasan, and Pramod.

Hombale Films have an impressive lineup of projects including Yuvarajkumar's debut, Yuva directed by Santhosh Ananddram, Raghu Thata in Tamil, and Sriimurali's Bagheera directed by Dr Suri. This apart, they have the highly anticipated Kantara: Chapter 1 also going on floors, which will undoubtedly be one of the biggest releases this year.

Team of Salar